

Hafa Adai!

Next step: Public outreach on COVID-19 vaccine. **PAGE 2**  
E-Land donates 10 turkeys to DFEMS. **PAGE 5**

75¢

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2020

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

## Man arrested in vehicle crash

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A man was arrested yesterday for allegedly driving under the influence, following a collision between a sedan and a truck at the Shell Dandan intersection.

According to multiple eye-witnesses from neighboring establishments, they confirmed that Department of Public Safety officers arrested a man after his car—a silver Hyundai Accent sedan—ran headlong into a boom truck owned by RNV Construction

**See MAN on Page 4**

## CHCC projects 95% of population to be vaccinated

By JUSTINE NAUTA  
justine\_nauta@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. predicts to have 95% of the CNMI population vaccinated by 2021.

According to CHCC spokesperson Lee Tenorio, the overall goal is to have the COVID-19 vaccine available to everyone in the CNMI.

Since the COVID-19 vaccine is being provided to the CNMI by the U.S. government, it will be available free of charge to all people living in the CNMI.

According to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, his administration and CHCC will be coming out with community

outreach for the vaccination, which is expected to be around this week. The outreach for the vaccine is meant to educate

**See CHCC on Page 4**

### AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Nov. 23, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	6,346	203	6,549
Recovered	4,341	90	4,431
Active	1,810	203	2,013
Deaths	106	0	106
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	81,034		

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	104	0	104
Traced via Travel Screening	78	0	78
Traced via Community Screening	26	0	26
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested	22,633*		
Days since last community transmission	98		

\*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases. The community-based testing has been temporarily suspended.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

### WHEN TOURISM REOPENS

‘21 tourist sites will be topnotch’

FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

By the time the CNMI reopens its borders to tourism, some 21 tourist sites will be world-class and ready to receive visitors,

according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres on Friday.

Speaking at a radio news briefing, Torres praised the

CNMI's business community for partnering with the government in making sure that

**See TOURIST on Page 4**



Torres

### COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

#### LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor



### HELPING HANDS

2019 Miss Earth NMI Leisha Deleon Guerrero receives a donation from a commuter during last Saturday's food and clothing drive that was organized by the Ohala Foundation at the Atkins Kroll intersection and Oleai pavilion across Modern Stationery on Saipan. The Army ROTC at the Northern Marianas College and volunteers from 4-H Marianas participated in the charity drive.

NEIL FAMA

**More photos on Page 4**

## Over 350 return overpaid PUA benefits

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
kimberly\_bautista@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The CNMI Department of La-

bor has gotten back Pandemic Unemployment Assistance from over 350 individuals who were determined to be in-

eligible for the program.

During a news briefing last Friday, Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente said that over 350

individuals paid back the benefits that were given them.

“As of last week, there was over 350 claimants that had returned the funds from PUA,”

**See PUA on Page 4**

### INSIDE



### BUSINESS

Sunshine Massage operates until 1am and offers massages to those who work late.

**PAGE 11**



### NATION

President-elect Joe Biden is expected to nominate Antony Blinken as secretary of state.

**PAGE 12**



### LIFE & STYLE

Taylor Swift wins her third consecutive artist of the year prize at the American Music Awards.

**PAGE 15**



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**GOT A NEWS TIP?**

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com





### TOYS FOR TOTS SPONSOR

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bank of Guam is now an official 2020 "Toys for Tots" sponsor this holiday season. The "Toys for Tots" program is a charitable initiative hosted by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve that provides toys to disadvantaged children during the Christmas holiday season. The program is spearheaded by the Associated Students of Northern Marianas College and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's Saipan Young Professionals. Businesses who would like to participate in this program and host a toy collection box can email [saipantoystots@gmail.com](mailto:saipantoystots@gmail.com).

## Local

### Next step: Public outreach on COVID-19 vaccinations

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
 REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said his administration is planning to start this week its community outreach on the COVID-19 vaccine in a bid to educate the community about the subject.

Speaking at a radio news briefing last Friday, Torres said they've met with COVID-19 Task Force chief executive officer Warren Villagomez and governor's authorized representative Patrick Guerrero on how they make sure that they have the means to roll out the vaccines in the CNMI. The governor said they talked about the pros and cons about making sure that the community understands why they should all be vaccinated and to address any concerns.

"We're [going to] be working on that, in the very, very near

future, meaning, hopefully, by next week, we can start educating our community," he said.

Torres said this pandemic has affected everybody and the surest way to return to a degree of normalcy is by making sure that everyone is vaccinated. "We always hear that...our new norm will stay unless we have a vaccine to go back to our old norm," he said.

With this opportunity, he is hoping that the community, businesses, and media partners will publicize the importance of having this vaccine across the community because it would be safer for all.

Torres said this is another avenue for the CNMI to look into the travel bubble from those in the tourism market and he hopes this will start the return of the tourism industry in the CNMI because it's the Commonwealth's only source of revenue.

### Flash flood warning yesterday

The entire Marianas woke up yesterday to a drizzly and windy morning and everyone wondered if there was an approaching storm. The National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, assured, though, that it was just bad weather moving through the region.

Based on information received from the NWS and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center-State Warning Point, there was a flash flood warning for Rota yesterday that lasted until noon.

NWS said that its doppler radar indicated thunderstorms

producing heavy rain across Rota and that flash flooding was likely to begin shortly, affecting small creeks and streams, urban areas, highways, streets and other drainage and low-lying areas.

At the same time, NWS warned of a high risk for rip currents through yesterday afternoon in Guam and on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota along east facing reefs. Rip currents can sweep even the best swimmers away from shore into deeper water.

Surf for east facing reefs were expected to go up to 9 feet. (PR)

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Saipan

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 \*All benefits should be used during stay duration checked-in times only  
 \*Facilities and benefits are for the use of registered guests only  
 \*Valid CNMI or Guam resident ID required for special promotional rates



## Interisland transport of marijuana: Legal or not? OAG opinion sought

**FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Cannabis Commission and the Office of the Attorney General are still doing research whether or not the interisland transport of marijuana in the CNMI is federally illegal or allowed.

Cannabis commission managing director Monique Sablan told the Senate Committee on Cannabis and Gaming last week that they are currently talking with an OAG lawyer who is doing the research to figure out or provide them the necessary guidance on that issue.

This was Sablan's response after Senate vice president Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) asked whether the commission has OAG's guidance on the issue since Tinian, Rota, and Saipan are surrounded by waters that are, to an extent, federally regulated.

While the OAG is doing its research, the commission is also doing its own study, Sablan said. "I believe Alaska has the same issue as we do. So we're trying to figure out how are other jurisdictions tackling this because, let's say Washington and Oregon, they're separated by land mass; they're separated by a border. Us, we're separated from Tinian and Rota by bodies of water that are federally regulated to an extent," she said.

Sablan is hoping to be able to provide an update at their next Senate presentation. "We are also waiting. We are also

consulting with Customs as well to see what their regulations are and I will give you a better answer, sooner or later," she told the senators.

In her presentation before the Senate, Sablan said the commission has received 12 applications for commercial while 11 others have expressed interest.

Committee chair Sen. Vinnie F. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) called the meeting to discuss matter relevant to the CNMI Cannabis Commission's operations.

The enactment of Public Law 20-66, the "Taulamwaar Sensible CNMI Cannabis Act of 2018," authorized personal, medicinal, and commercial use of cannabis or marijuana in the CNMI.

Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), who was one of the main authors of the cannabis law, believes the commercial aspect of the new industry "will happen no matter what," so he encourages the Commission to give more focus on the law's medicinal aspect to help people who are suffering debilitating illnesses or have cancer.

At the same Senate meeting, former House speaker Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero, who is the special adviser for cannabis under the Office of the Governor, has revealed the many challenges facing the commission and the industry such as the importation of marijuana seeds.

Deleon Guerrero said the Cannabis Act has provisions that are confusing and problematic.

## Torres: Trump did a lot for NMI

**FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said Friday that the Trump administration has helped the CNMI more than he imagined, but that he will ask President-elect Joe Biden to continue helping the Commonwealth if Biden prevails in the lawsuits that the Trump administration has initiated to contest the Nov. 3 election results.

Speaking at radio news briefing, Torres said that if there are some contentions or a lawsuit challenging the election results, then he respects that process.

The governor said that when the time comes and whoever is sworn in as President by January next year, he intends to asks them to continue supporting the CNMI.

Torres said that, with the Trump administration, they have had all the assistance

and direct communication with President Donald Trump's Cabinet.

"I hope that, if Biden succeeds, whatever that lawsuit is, if there is one, then I'll just ask that he continue to help the CNMI," Torres said.

Torres said he wants Biden to, at the very minimum, understand the CNMI's needs and give all the support that the Commonwealth can get and continue to get.

Soon after media reports declared Biden as the President-elect, Torres sent his and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios' congratulatory message to Biden and vice president-elect Kamala Harris, on behalf of the people of the CNMI.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) earlier stated that he is looking forward to working in the U.S. House of Representatives over the next two years to advance Biden's and Harris' agenda.



Sablan



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## CHARITY DRIVE

Volunteers of the Ohala Foundation participate in a food and clothing drive last Saturday at the Atkins Kroll intersection in San Jose and at the Oleai pavilion across Modern Stationery on Saipan. Leading the drive was 2019 Miss Earth NMI Leisha Deleon Guerrero. She was joined by other Miss Earth titleholders and volunteers from the Army ROTC at Northern Marianas College and 4-H Marianas.

NEIL FAMA

## TOURIST

From Page 1

the 21 tourist sites on the island are ready for the resumption of tourism. In particular, Torres cited Governor's Council of Economic Adviser chair Jerry Tan and all other business partners for stepping up in preparing the tourist sites. "I don't want to start giving names of companies because I'm sure I'm [going to] miss one. But they have all stepped up," he said.

Last May, Torres abolished the Strategic Economic Development Council and created the 14-member Governor's Council of Eco-

nomics Adviser that will advise him on how the CNMI economy can be restarted and its borders reopened. The council also created the Public-Private Initiative, where private businesses adopt specific sites on the islands and commit to maintaining them for five years. The governor said that many businesses have signed on to this partnership. "We're looking at just about every tourist site, from Bird Island all the way down to...Ladder Beach," he said.

Torres said they are working together in making sure that the islands' tourist sites will be world class by the time the CNMI reopen for tourism.

"I know that some of the sites in the north are closed to the public, but the good reason is that they are renovating it. They're remodeling it, they're painting, cutting down old trees. And some are planting new trees," he said.

The goal, he said, is to bring in all business partners and work with Marianas Visitors Authority, Department of Corrections, and other agencies.

"With the tourist sites, it gives us this opportunity to make them a lot better than when we left off pre-COVID," Torres said.

At this point, though, there is still no word as to when the CNMI will reopen its borders to tourists.

## PUA

From Page 1

she said. Most of these were disqualified from receiving PUA because they were not U.S. citizens or for some other reasons.

When asked for the exact amount that has been repaid, Benavente said she did not have the exact computation and did not want to give a rough estimate.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, as of August, DOL has col-

lected over \$108,522.46 in PUA and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, FPUC, overpayments from ineligible applicants.

Claimants who are not U.S. citizens, green card holders, refugees, a specific category of EAD holder, etc., are not qualified for PUA based on USDOL guidelines and must return overpayments.

For claimants who received overpayment and want to return the benefits, they may call 322-9943/9944 or email bpc.cnmidol@gmail.com to report fraud/overpayment.

The Benefits Payment Control Unit will compile the information and, once it is proven that the claimant has been overpaid, an appointment will be made with the claimant to arrange a repayment plan.

Under federal guidance set by the U.S. Department of Labor, CNMI DOL plays a fundamental role in ensuring the integrity of the PUA/FPUC programs in the Marianas. Any individual who receives benefits payments as a result of an error, intentional or unintentional, will be contacted by the department to return those payments.

## MAN

From Page 1

at the intersection near Shell Dandan.

Eyewitnesses said that, according to information gleaned from police officers at the scene, the man was drunk.

Witnesses said the man who was driving the boom truck became unconscious after the collision, so drivers in neighboring vehicles rushed in to help him out of the truck.

Witnesses added that the alleged drunk driver's vehicle, the sedan, started to smoke immediately after the collision, which prompted people to rush to the aid of the two drivers, afraid that the sedan would explode.

*Saipan Tribune* reached out to the Department of Public Safety for additional updates but DPS has yet to

issue an official report of the incident.

*Saipan Tribune* was able to view a snippet of a neighboring establishment's security cameras that caught the incident on tape.

Based on the surveillance camera footage, the RNV boom truck was trailing behind a red vehicle at the intersection at around 2:38pm.

Based on the footage, the stoplights headed in the direction of San Vicente and the direction for San Jose were red, while the stoplight for the lane coming from As Lito was green.

As the boom truck made its way through the stoplight, the silver Hyundai Accent sped through the red stoplight and slammed straight into the truck, leaving the sedan completely totaled.

At around 3pm, officers arrived at the scene to assist both parties involved in the accident and arrested the driver of the sedan.

## CHCC

From Page 1

the community.

"We always hear that our new norm will stay, unless we have a vaccine to go back to our old norm. Now that we have this opportunity, I hope that our community, our business partners, our media partners will disseminate the appropriate information, and perhaps the encouragement of having this vaccine across our community, because it will be safer for all of us," said Torres.

Right now, the vaccine's maker, Pfizer, is asking the Federal Drug Administration for Emergency Use Authorization that will allow the vaccine's use in the community.

When asked if there will be people who will go through a trial before releasing it to the community, Tenorio stated that there are many tests, clinical trials, and data being collected in the U.S. mainland to fulfill the Emergency Use Authorization process.

"Administering a safe and effective vaccine is our top priority. We are looking at guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and monitoring the vaccine safety data that is available to the public before considering COVID-19 vaccine administration in the CNMI," said Tenorio.

The COVID-19 vaccine approach

will be implemented in a three-phased approach:

■ Phase 1: People working in health care settings, first responder agencies, essential workers, and vulnerable populations. CHCC will make the COVID-19 vaccines available to people working in health care settings as they are responsible for providing care and dealing directly with patients who may be at higher risk of exposure to COVID-19. This effort will engage both private and public health care providers to ensure all health care workers in the CNMI are protected as they continue to provide care to the sick and ailing. CHCC will also engage first responders on a series approach where they will prioritize those who are directly involved in the CNMI's preparedness and response efforts to combat COVID-19. Essential workers and vulnerable populations will also begin to be prioritized to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

■ Phase 2: This will cover the remainder of Phase one, which is the initiation of the general population. The COVID-19 vaccine will continue to be offered to essential workers and people living with underlying health conditions. CHCC will begin to make the COVID-19 vaccine available to the general population.

■ Phase 3 - Remainder of Phase 2. CHCC's overall goal is to have the COVID-19 vaccine available to everyone living in the CNMI.





From left, David Lee, Human Resources director of Micronesia Resort Inc., the local holding company of E-Land Group; YS Choi, Sales & Marketing director of MRI; Cody Norita of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services; Simon Moon, main chef of Kensington Hotel Saipan; Amy Cho, Food and Beverage director of Kensington Hotel Saipan; Manuel Cabrera of DFEMS; Dennis Seo, assistant general manager of Pacific Islands Club Saipan; Gloria Cavanagh, general manager of PIC Saipan; Jairam Jayendran of DFEMS; Ted Jung, Hotel Development director of MRI; DFEMS spokesperson Derek Gersonde; and Lindsay Ahn, CSR manager of MRI, pose after E-Land Group donated 10 turkeys to DFEMS as part of their yearly tradition.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## E-Land donates 10 turkeys to DFEMS

By JUSTINE NAUTA  
justine\_nauta@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Just in time for Thanksgiving, E-Land Group, the parent company of Kensington Hotel Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and Coral Ocean Golf Resort, donated 10 turkeys to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services as a token of appreciation.

According to Lindsay Ahn, E-Land Group Corporate Social Responsibility manager, PIC Saipan has been giving turkeys every year to the fire department, and Kensington Hotel Saipan joined this special tradition this year. These donated turkeys are part of the limited supply that Kensington prepares for the coming Thanksgiving Day.

DFEMS spokesperson Derek Gersonde said they are more than thankful for E-Land Group's support to the CNMI's first responders.

## Wild about the Red Cross

The 32nd American Red Cross Club 200 will be a live streaming event on Dec. 19, Saturday. The event will be held exclusively online this year due to COVID-19. This year's theme will be "Wild About the Red Cross" and include door prizes and auction items. Tickets are only \$50 each and available online at [www.redcross.org/club200](http://www.redcross.org/club200). Every \$50 ticket purchase will have a chance to win door prizes. If buyers don't have a credit or debit card, contact the Red Cross office at 234-3459 for more information. (PR)

E-Land Group is not new when it comes to helping the community. Earlier this year, the company donated 130 care packages to COVID-19 frontliners, and 445 relief good packages to CNMI families. Most recently, E-Land Group refurbished the public restroom of Pau Pau Beach Park as part of its pledge to rehabilitate the facility.

According to Ahn, the chef's special turkey-to-go package is available for pre-order now at Kensington. In addition, Kensington and PIC offer a variety of Thanksgiv-

ing promotions for room stay and restaurants.

On Thanksgiving Day itself this Thursday, brunch with roasted turkey and many other options at Kensington Hotel's Loria restaurant is available for reservation. PIC's Thanksgiving Long Weekend Package is offered with special benefits. Information can be found on the resort's Facebook page.

For reservation and inquiry, contact 322-3311, or [reservations@kensingtonsaipan.com](mailto:reservations@kensingtonsaipan.com) for Kensington, and 234-7976 for PIC Saipan.

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Jennifer Tanaka at [jtanka@dys.gov.mp](mailto:jtanka@dys.gov.mp) or  
Nina S. Nekaifes at [nnekaifes@dys.gov.mp](mailto:nnekaifes@dys.gov.mp)

**CSBG Disaster  
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nine (9) months  
rental assistance  
to sixteen (16)  
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### SAIPAN

- Eight (8) eligible families

### TINIAN

- Four (4) eligible families

### ROTA

- Four (4) eligible families

**PACKAGE  
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This program was made possible in accordance with the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-20), Administration for Children & Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.



# Nine honored as SCS students of the month

Every month, Saipan Community School recognizes nine students, one per grade level, for outstanding character displayed at school. This month, the honorees are:



**Mook**

Isaiah Mook is the Kindergarten student of the month. He demonstrates patience, and initiative each day in class. He brings an eagerness to learn and grow each day.

Melvin Victor C. Reyes is the 1st grade student of the month. He is diligent, patient, and kind. He works to do his best in all that he does. He



**Reyes**



**Punzalan**

Keavene S. Punzalan is the 2nd grade student of the month. He is being recognized for his perseverance, cooperation and kindness. He is a focused student who always participates in lessons and activities and completes his work on time. He never gives up when things are challenging. He is always willing to help his teacher or others in need. He is a kind-hearted student.



**Oh**

Claire Oh is the 3rd grade student of the month. She is an exemplary role model for her third grade classmates. She consistently tries her best in completing all assignments, eagerly participates in all lessons and activities and perseveres through difficult tasks. She readily helps her friends and classmates and helps keep them safe by following COVID-19 guidelines.



**Guerrero**

Andre Heart M. Guerrero is the 4th grade student of the month. He



**Tudela**

is a true blessing in the classroom. He never fails to participate in a responsible, enthusiastic manner. He has shown great determination in his studies, and is truly an amazing leader in the classroom.

Annabella Jelyn M. Tudela is the 5th grade student of the month. She is always on task and working hard to do her very best. She is always willing to help her classmates in a positive and respectful manner. Her positive attitude is an example for the rest of the class.



**Chun**

Jian Chun is the 6th grade student of the month. She is an extremely hardworking student. She comes to school everyday with an attitude that says, "I want to learn and know more than I did yesterday." She approaches each day with a smile and a cheerfulness that sets an example for the rest of the class.

Sheryne Rui G. Yang is the 7th grade student of the month. She consistently goes above and beyond to infuse her own creative style into her work. She is a leader through her individuality, and ability to make her assignments truly her own. She



**Yang**

sets the standard of excellence for her peers, and exemplifies true creativity in all that she does.



**Sablan**

Soledad Sablan is the 8th grade student of the month. She is an example of loyalty and hard work. She is always willing to help others, and presents an example of friendship. Her consistency in her studies truly exemplifies 2 Corinthians 10:5. Her hard work and obedience sets her apart from her peers. (PR)


**CNMI DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY**  
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**


**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**RFP NO.: ITB21-COTA/FTA-020**

**SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 28, 2020 TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

**“PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF EIGHT (8) MEDIUM-DUTY LOW FLOOR 2020 OR NEWER ADA ACCESSIBLE TRANSIT BUSES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**\*\*FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY\*\***



QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE IN WRITING TO MS. ALFREDA P. CAMACHO, SA FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION, VIA E-MAIL TO [alfreda.camacho@gov.mp](mailto:alfreda.camacho@gov.mp) **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, DECEMBER 11, 2020.** QUESTIONS SUBMITTED AFTER THE GIVEN DEADLINE WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED.

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ ALFREDA P. CAMACHO**  
SA, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

**/S/ FRANCISCO AGUON**  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S


**CNMI DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY**  
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**


**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
**RFP NO.: RFP21-OGM-019**

**SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 28, 2020 TIME: 9:30 A.M.**

**“2020 2MW UTILITY SCALE GRID CONNECTED ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE ISLAND OF ROTA. A PROJECT UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, OFFICE OF GRANTS MANAGEMENT & STATE CLEARINGHOUSE”**

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**\*\*FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY\*\***

**PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING** WILL BE HELD AT THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, CAPITOL HILL – SAIPAN ON **DECEMBER 11, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME.** ALL PARTICIPANTS/ATTENDEES ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK AND EXERCISE SOCIAL DISTANCING FOR THE DURATION OF THE MEETING.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO **MR. EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR., ADMINISTRATOR**, VIA E-MAIL TO [epi.cabrera@gov.mp](mailto:epi.cabrera@gov.mp) **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, DECEMBER 14, 2020.**

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

**/S/ EPIPHANIO E. CABRERA, JR.**  
ADMINISTRATOR, OGM

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**


**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
**RFP21-CHCC/OD2A-001**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 25, 2020 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)**


**“CREATIVE DIGITAL AND PRINT SERVICES”**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE ([WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP](http://WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP)). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA**  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**/S/ CORAZON P. ADA**  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**


**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
**RFP21-CHCC/THC-001**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 2, 2020 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)**

**“TINIAN HEALTH CENTER STORM READINESS PROJECT”**

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**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA**  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**/S/ CORA P. ADA**  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY



# Eight to compete for Miss Marianas 2021 crown

Eight women will be competing for the 2021 Miss Marianas crown in March next year. Stellar Marianas, the islands' pageant and talent group, hosted an orientation for the candidates last Saturday morning at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center and to introduce them to the public.

The 2021 Miss Marianas contestants met with Stellar Marianas volunteers and experts for their first training and photo shoot that marked the beginning of their path to the 2021 Miss Marianas Pageant in March.

"We, along with our sponsors and community partners, are incredibly excited to offer this amazing opportunity to our young women and we look forward to working with our eight lovely contestants in promoting and inspiring our community," said Stellar Marianas president Michelle Sablan.

Contestant No. 1 is Vincent Rabasto, 26. She has a bachelor's degree in Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Management. She is currently a clerk at the Office of Nutritional Assistance Program and decided to join the pageant to help promote the islands and gain opportunities for personal growth.

"I hope to...learn from diverse cultures. I would also like to start a business in the food and beverage industry that gives back to the community and helps promote local resources. I am currently expanding my knowledge and gaining more experience in jobs that are food- and health-



2019 Miss Marianas Shannon Sasamoto, center, meets with, from left, 2021 Miss Marianas contestants Vincent Rabasto, Lilly Carillo, Toremy Diaz, Naomi Lizama, Ha'Ane Eugenio, Bernadette Horey, Richelle Ramon, and Savannah Delos Santos during last Saturday's orientation at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

ISLAND IMAGE & MOTION

related," said Rabasto.

Contestant No. 2 Lilly Carillo, 18, is a nursing major at Northern Marianas College and is a lifeguard at the Pacific Islands Club. She aspires to be a dental hygienist that also focuses in promoting good health.

Carillo said that if she were selected as Miss Marianas, she would use this platform to build more community gardens and have fresh fruits and vegetables more readily accessible to those in need. "Our beautiful and historical islands deserve to be treated with respect and the people deserve to flourish from the land," she said.

Contestant No. 3 Toremy Diaz, 18, also a freshman at NMC, is a barista at Cha and aspires to help preserve Chamorro and Carolinian languages and cultures.

"If I become 2021 Miss

Marianas, I would like to open a Cultural Youth Center so that young people in the CNMI can learn Chamorro and Carolinian cultures and languages. I hope to engage the youth in a fun learning experience in this program," she said.

Contestant No. 4 Naomi Lizama, 21, is a senior at the University of Washington, majoring in American Ethnic Studies with a minor in Diversity. She is a teacher aide at CNMI PSS Athletics Program and she aspires to be an educator. "I would like to develop an after-school program that allows students to obtain mentorship from fellow high school and college volunteers. We don't have to be socially distant, but rather physically distant during these times," she said.

Contestant No. 5 Ha'Ane Eugenio, 21, is an NMC as-

sociate degree graduate and aspires to have her own business one day, creating her own clothing line that carries some of the islands' unique characteristics. "I decided to join this year's pageant with intentions of growing myself and seeking the endless possibilities ahead of me. I want to be a model citizen for our community and invest my time in leading and empowering our youth," she said.

Bernadette Horey, 19, is contestant No. 6. She is a freshman at NMC and aspires to promote a way of living that is conscious of the resources we use in our daily lives. "To achieve this, I practice being environmentally aware, from eating more plant-based foods to supporting small local businesses," said Horey. "I joined this pageant to fulfill my desire to promote the Marianas

in a proactive way and to use my position to bring the Marianas into the light and show the world that while we are small, we are a proud and strong people."

Contestant No. 7 Richelle Ramon, 19, is also an NMC student and is currently working to preserve and protect marine resources through Project HOPE, which stands for Health Oceans People Empowerment, teaching 7<sup>th</sup> graders about ocean conservation and increasing their ACT test scores in Science. "I would like to begin projects or programs that deal with ocean conservation. I would like to see more involvement, education, and outreach throughout our CNMI community that deals with this, especially with our youth," she said.

Contestant No. 8 Savannah Delos Santos, 23 years old, is

a graduate of Chaminade University with a B.A. in Business Administration-Marketing and is currently working on her accounting masters. "My life ambition is to connect and communicate with as many people as I can in the world. I want to show others that they are seen, thought of, and loved incredibly. Currently, I am taking on any challenge that is thrown my way, one of which includes this pageant, and another of which includes stepping out of my comfort zone and pursuing acting," said Delos Santos. "Currently, I am a student actor with ABS-CBN's Star Magic Workshop. We learn to not only be better actors, but better people in and for society. Acting has helped me to be able to understand people on a deeper level and has also opened doors for me to connect with individuals all around the world with various backgrounds."

The contestants received welcome gifts from LP Beauty, Paopao, custom Stellar masks from Saipan Apparel, photo shoot from Island Image & Motion and a Make Up Station and refreshments provided by Pena House Boutique.

Stellar Marianas directors have laid out a calendar of events, activities, and trainings that are all geared to preparing each of the contestants for not only local and international stage competition, but also for the responsibilities of being Marianas' ambassador to the world.

To follow them on this journey, join on Instagram @stellarmarianas and @missnorthernmarianas as well as www.youtube.com/stellarmarianas and www.facebook.com/stellarmarianas. (PR)

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID  
ITB NO.: DPW21-ITB-005**

**SUBMISSION DATE: December 18, 2020 TIME: 9:30 A.M**

**"Island Wide Emergency Repair,  
Traffic Signs and Pavement Markings  
Project No.EY-19, (002) Saipan"**

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**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **December 4, 2020**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **December 11, 2020** to **Ms. Lorraine M. Seman, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

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**/S/ JAMES A. ADA**  
SECRETARY, DPW

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**  
ACTING DIRECTOR,  
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID  
ITB NO.: DPW21-ITB-006**

**SUBMISSION DATE: December 18, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M**

**"Island Wide Emergency Repair,  
Miscellaneous Items Project  
No. EY-19, (003) Saipan"**

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**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

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**/S/ JAMES A. ADA**  
SECRETARY, DPW

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**  
ACTING DIRECTOR,  
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID  
ITB NO.: DPW21-ITB-007**

**SUBMISSION DATE: December 18, 2020 TIME: 10:30 A.M.**

**"Miscellaneous Emergency Repair,  
Traffic Signs and Roadway Pavement  
Project No. EY-19, (005) Tinian"**

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**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **December 4, 2020**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Mayor Office, Tinian. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All question regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **December 11, 2020** to **Ms. Lorraine M. Seman, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

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**/S/ JAMES A. ADA**  
SECRETARY, DPW

**/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON**  
ACTING DIRECTOR,  
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES



# Opinion

Hafa Adair

## Saipan Tribune

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### EDITORIAL

## A milestone for 737 MAX, but Boeing has more to do

Federal approval for Boeing's 737 MAX to resume service is an enormous milestone for the company, its workers and Washington's aerospace industry.

Yet there is still much more work ahead for Boeing and the Federal Aviation Administration to repair their reputations as world leaders in aviation safety.

The FAA on Wednesday approved Boeing's fixes for flaws in its bestselling plane that led to crashes in 2018 and 2019, killing 346 people.

Substantial changes were made to the problematic flight control system implicated in the crashes. New pilot training is required and both Boeing and the FAA pledged new approaches to their safety and certification processes.

The MAX should be far safer after extraordinary scrutiny of its overhaul by regulators around the world, independent experts, airlines and pilot unions.

Aviation regulators in Europe and Canada are still demanding further improvements, but the MAX may be flying passengers in the U.S. before year-end.

Then begins the harder task of convincing the world that Boeing has fixed itself, and that the FAA is reformed and less cozy with America's largest plane-maker.

Restoring trust and their reputations for excellence may take years and potentially another generation of airliners.

Since the first MAX crash, "Boeing has suffered through a relentless litany of damning revelations, scathing investigation reports and discoveries of problems that delayed this moment," the Seattle Times' aerospace reporter Dominic Gates wrote Wednesday.

Restoring Boeing's share of the single-aisle airliner market is unlikely until a new model is produced, potentially in 2023 or 2024, said aviation analyst Scott Hamilton of Lee-Ham News and Analysis.

"The only way that Boeing is going to come back with that is to produce a new airplane," he told this editorial board.

This is a national concern. Boeing airplanes are a flagship export and their quality, and federal certification, reflect on the quality of U.S. products.

Congress is making overdue but welcome progress on strengthening the safety oversight system. The House on Tuesday approved the bipartisan Aircraft Certification Reform and Accountability Act, co-sponsored by U.S. Rep. Rick Larsen, D-Wash. On Wednesday, the Senate advanced its Aircraft Safety and Certification Reform Act, co-sponsored by U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash.

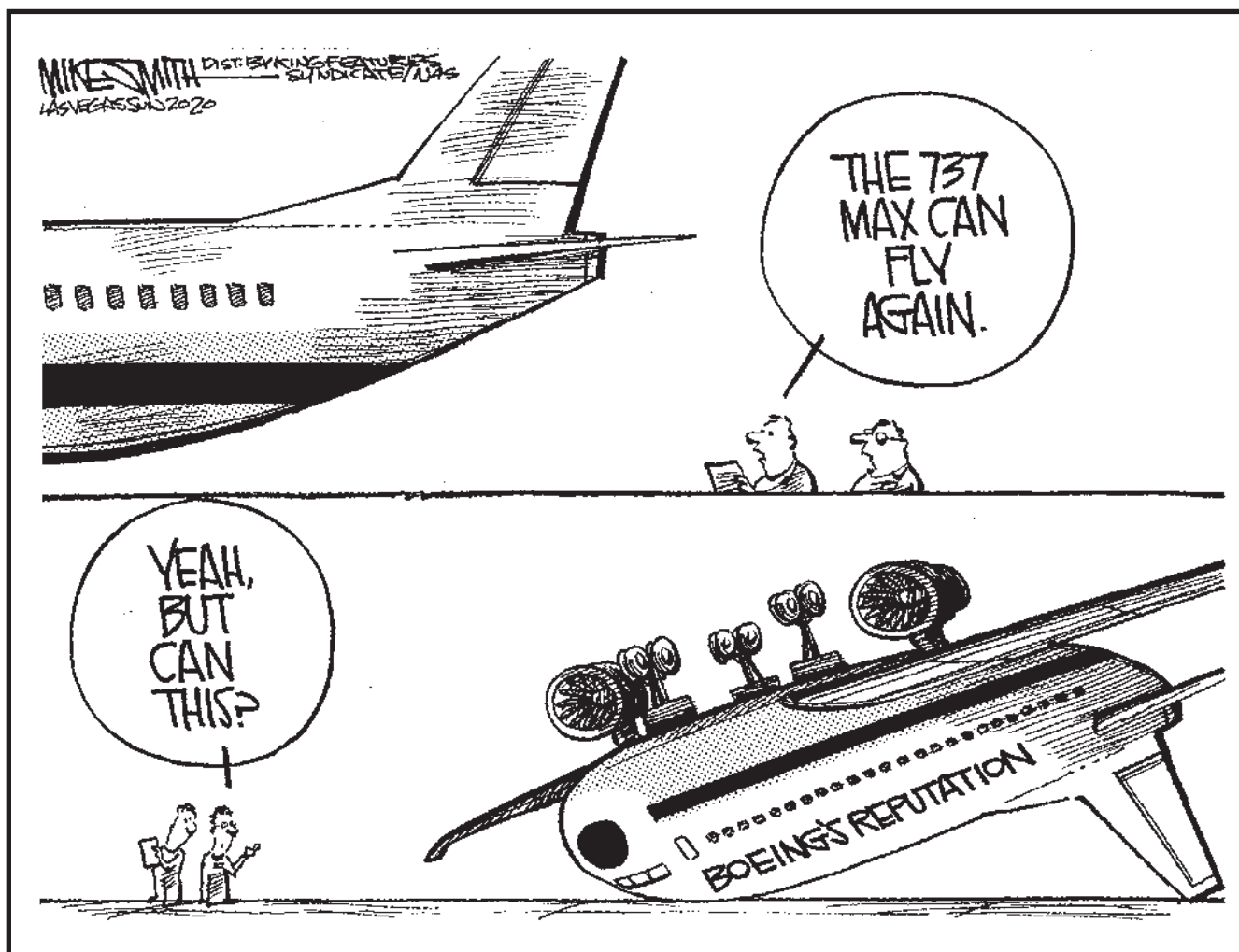
Boeing has reorganized its engineering organization and says it has further empowered engineers to improve safety.

CEO David Calhoun on Wednesday said the tragedies and lessons learned "have reshaped our company and further focused our attention on our core values of safety, quality and integrity."

That's good to hear. But it will take time for Boeing to prove that it fixed its culture and demonstrate whether safety and engineering excellence are again its paramount duty, not shareholder value.

One test will come with the next plane. Will Boeing continue building where there are experienced and skilled workers and

See A MILESTONE on next page



## CDC's call to cancel Thanksgiving came just in time

It's a tough blow for Americans that the CDC has more or less urged us to cancel Thanksgiving this year, but good news for the world that the agency is back in the driver's seat when it comes to public messaging on the pandemic.

Without the CDC's grounding influence, advice about the pandemic has been divisive and confusing. The most popular news stories on social media are meant not to inform, but to generate outrage. That's diverted far too much focus to joggers, beach-goers and protesters.

Contact tracing studies are showing the disease is being spread primarily by people gathering indoors in private settings—at weddings, baby showers, birthday parties and holiday dinners. When people are with family and friends, they feel comfortable gathering closer for longer, which makes disease transmission more likely.

It's too bad the new Thanksgiving guidelines came so late, after many people made plans. But the change was necessary. In most parts of the U.S., the odds are higher than ever that someone at a Thanksgiving gathering unknowingly has the virus. And it's only within the last couple of weeks that the situation has gotten this dire: New confirmed cases were 74,000 on Nov. 1 and 187,000 on Nov. 19.

It's the nature of an exponentially expanding disease that it can move slowly at first and then suddenly start accelerating. "Public health guidance has to evolve too," says Harvard epidemiologist William Hanage. "The risks of infection now are very different from what they were in, say, August, and as a result public health advice has to move with it."

And Thanksgiving dinners tend to bring generations together in a way that other sorts of social events don't. While any COVID patient can get sick enough to need hospitalization, people over 70 are vastly more likely to end up in a hospital, an ICU, or the morgue.

The CDC could do even better, though. They shouldn't just tell people what not to do, but why. People are less likely to follow rules that seem arbitrary. We also resent rules that seem concocted to make politicians look like they're doing something, like travel restrictions and curfews. When the CDC makes a recommendation, it needs to explain why following it would likely keep people from being hospitalized or dying from COVID-19. What you want to do, Hanage says, is help people understand how the disease is spreading and what to do to prevent it.

That should mean a newfound focus on limiting social contacts. The reality is that people are unlikely to wear masks at social gatherings. And you can't wear a mask while eating. Most

By **FAYE FLAM**

Bloomberg Opinion

Faye Flam is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. She has written for the Economist, The New York Times, the Washington Post, Psychology Today, Science and other publications. She has a degree in geophysics from the California Institute of Technology.



Americans have gotten the message that all would be fine if everyone wore a mask in public. But talking face-to-face with others, says Hanage, is a much more likely disease-spreading activity than, say, passing on the street. And so it's been private gatherings that are driving the current surge.

Another promising sign: The CDC's Thanksgiving message also showed an embrace of harm reduction, not total abstinence. That means focusing on the biggest threats and not browbeating people over activities very unlikely to cause harm. There would be less pandemic fatigue if more people listened to experts such as Harvard's Julia Marcus, who warned against shaming people for low-risk activities such as going to the beach or letting kids play in playgrounds.

The new CDC guidelines make it clear that the worst possible scenario is one in which big, multi-generational groups take buses and trains from far-off points to meet up for a long indoor dinner. The guidelines suggest, correctly, that that outdoor gatherings are less risky.

One reason fatigue is setting in is that media coverage has focused as much attention on small risks as big ones, and kept everyone on red alert for months when many should have been at yellow—ready to respond if things got more dangerous.

One Iowa woman told the Wall Street Journal how she stayed inside for months, even though there were very few cases in her area. By fall, when cases there were extremely high and the risk vastly worse, she couldn't take it anymore. She ended up in a bar with friends ... and then in a hospital room.

Most critically, the CDC guidance needs to reflect the kind of humility and transparency that makes scientists worthy of our trust—admitting they might have had some things wrong early in the pandemic, when they knew less. Scientific understanding of this pandemic is a moving target. Changing guidance in response to new events or evidence should build public trust instead of eroding it.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Kim Ng: A win for MLB—and the rest of us

I have been disheartened to see the COVID-19 pandemic called the “Kung Flu” and to hear of associated incidents of hate crimes against Asians and Asian American/Pacific Islanders, so I welcomed the news my kids announced over our mutual virtual school and work breaks the other day: “Hey mom, did you hear they picked an Asian American woman GM in the MLB?”

When the Miami Marlins named Kim Ng general manager last week, she became the first Asian American person to hold that position for a Major League Baseball team and the first woman. In fact, she is the first woman hired as a GM by any major professional men’s team in North American sports. I think it’s no coincidence that it took another barrier breaker to do what no other team had done before. The Marlins’ Derek Jeter, the first Black man to become a CEO of an MLB team, was the first to hire a woman to lead an entire baseball team’s organization.

Though our family consists of die-hard New York Mets fans, we give huge kudos to Jeter and the Marlins organization for this decision. The Marlins have actively pledged to build an increasingly diverse organization, and my hope is that other organizations follow suit.

While my boys didn’t know how to pronounce her name (“is

it nidge or en-gee?”), hearing the news from them was nevertheless music to this Asian American mom’s ears (it’s pronounced “ang”). A few years ago, I wrote an op-ed about having discussions with my sons about girls playing baseball and gender equality. At that time, I spoke of the importance of having ongoing discussions about equality, diversity and inclusion with my half-Asian children. That’s never been more important than it is right now.

Having discussions about race and equality with your children may be hard, but weaving it in with something they care about (for my kids, it’s sports) makes the conversation easier and more relevant. I am certain they told me this story because they knew it would be important to me, but I’m hoping they took interest in the news because it’s also important to them. I like to believe that some of the discussions we have had over the years have left an impression on their developing minds, and they realize this is relevant to them.

“Whether or not you are aware of this yet,” I told them, “she is breaking barriers for you.”

Representation matters, I said to my boys, who dream of having careers in any aspect of sports, whether it be playing, coaching or analyzing the game. Kim Ng is paving the way for all chil-

**By TERRY LEE-WILK**

The Baltimore Sun

*Terry Lee-Wilk is a neuropsychologist who lives in Columbia, Maryland, with her sports-loving family. Her email is good-nuftigermom@gmail.com.*



dren as well as for individuals from different races, ethnicities, genders and ages who differ from the current makeup of sports leadership. Whether it’s to lead a baseball team’s organization or to lead the country, reflecting the diverse composition of our nation is important.

I’m glad the media is treating this like the big story it is. Across social media platforms, I noticed some of the usual negative comments (“she will fail,” “she won’t be able to make big decisions like a man,” etc.), but overwhelmingly the comments have been positive and supportive from all genders. In times like these, it gives me hope for the future.

Congratulations to Kim Ng for not only breaking the glass ceiling, but for shattering it. I have complained at length about the broken glass in my house from indoor baseball accidents, but today I’m not complaining about the shattered glass ceiling.

## Truth, misinformation, and the press

On Nov. 13, I was one of three panelists in Wisconsin who met via Zoom with about a dozen journalists and public officials from various countries in Latin America. The purpose of this 90-minute meeting, arranged by the International Institute of Wisconsin in cooperation with Graduate School USA and the U.S. State Department, was to examine “the current threat posed by disinformation and deceptive news” and “explore ways to verify reliable sources of information and counter misinformation,” among other related goals.

This exchange, like others I’ve participated in about once a year over the last decade, was part of the State Department’s International Visitor Leadership Program. The meetings, I’m told, are not recorded to protect the “privacy and safety of the visitors,” whom I am also not identifying here.

My fellow panelists were Julia Hunter of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association and David Armiak of the Center for Media and Democracy, a group that debunks spin and disinformation. We all expressed concern to live in a time when lies are common currency and truth has been devalued. We said this underscores the importance of fact-based journalism and honest investigation into official pronouncements.

I ventured that, with regard to President Donald Trump’s re-

fusal to accept the results of the Nov. 3 election, the U.S. press has been doing a fairly good job. The president’s allegations of widespread electoral fraud are being appropriately tagged as “baseless,” “without evidence” and “unfounded and erroneous.”

We discussed how first MSNBC and then other networks broke away from covering Trump’s live remarks on Nov. 5, saying he won the election but for all the “illegal votes.” I mentioned that a similar thing happened on Nov. 9, when Fox News anchor Neil Cavuto cut off White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany in mid-lie, telling viewers “I can’t in good countenance continue showing you this.”

Several of the visitors noted that this could never happen in their countries, where state-run media would not even think of cutting off a president or other government official. Even pointing out after the fact that a person in power said something untrue could bring severe consequences, as independent news outlets in Latin America are subject to harassment, closure and violence.

This is something I’ve seen at previous, in-person International Visitor Leadership Program sessions. The visitors I’ve met—from Latin America, Asia, Europe and Africa—often express amazement at how much freedom the U.S. press enjoys. Some marvel at the ability of journalists here to criticize and even ridicule those in power. Most dryly observe that they could not un-

**By BILL LUEDERS**

Tribune News Service

*Bill Lueders is editor of The Progressive magazine and president of the Wisconsin Freedom of Information Council. This column was produced for the Progressive Media Project, which is run by The Progressive, and distributed by Tribune News Service.*



dercut government officials without putting themselves at risk.

But sadly, I told the visitors, the ability of U.S. journalists to tell the truth has been substantially diminished by the widespread erosion of regard for truth itself. Large numbers of Americans believe, based on zero evidence, that Democrats, the media and the “deep state” stole the election from Trump, at the same time as they believe that COVID-19, which has killed a quarter of a million Americans, is a hoax.

My message to the visitors was that we face a common enemy: the preponderance of lies. We also share a common goal: to make truth matter. We as journalists should apply and teach the skills we’ve honed—skepticism, empiricism, rationality—to the extent that we can, given the obstacles we face.

Our obligation as journalists and opinion leaders is to insist that truth is knowable, and deserves more fidelity than falsehoods. That is the torch we must carry into the future.

## The failure of Black Lives Matter

Black Lives Matter came up with the single most effective political slogan of the year.

While no one was likely to be overly impressed with Joe Biden’s line, “Build Back Better,” and Donald Trump’s “Keep America Great” or “Make America Great Again, Again” didn’t have the resonance of the original 2016 version, BLM broke through the clutter with a catchphrase that was memorable, pungent—and utterly devastating to Democrats.

After a surprising Tory victory in the British parliamentary election in 1992, the pro-Tory tabloid *The Sun* famously boasted, “It’s the Sun Wot Won It.” In the same spirit, it could be said that in this year’s congressional election, “It’s ‘Defund the Police’ Wot Lost It.”

Democrats have an uphill battle to take the U.S. Senate—pending two Georgia run-offs—and suffered shocking setbacks in the House that drastically diminished their majority.

All over the map, Democrats got hammered on defunding the police, which couldn’t have been better designed to extract maximum political pain with zero upside.

Black Lives Matter has been a stunning success in the elite culture. It won the obeisance of almost every major institution,

from corporate America to sports leagues to colleges. It created a powerful, if dishonest, narrative of systemic police racism. It got invested with nearly a holy significance, such that criticizing it is considered at least a sin and perhaps a firing offense.

Much more importantly, at least for a time after the death of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis, it won the goodwill of a clear majority of Americans.

To take this position of strength and use it primarily to associate your allies with a politically radioactive position requires extraordinary strategic folly and heedless ideological fanaticism. BLM had both, in ample supply.

The notion of defunding the police had been rattling around the left for a long time, but the George Floyd protests took it mainstream. BLM pushed municipalities to actually act on the proposal.

Whenever someone tried to take the edge off defunding the police by redefining it as simply reallocating some law-enforcement dollars, defenders piped up to say, No, we really mean it. The *New York Times* ran an op-ed against incrementalist interpretations, “Yes, We Mean Literally Abolish the Police.”

Predictably, Republicans took the weapon handed to them and used it, as Democrats would have done if a voluble faction on the

deep technical expertise, or seek locales offering cheaper labor?

Meanwhile, the FAA’s approval to resume 737 MAX service is an important step for reviving Boeing and sustaining Wash-

**By RICH LOWRY**

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*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*



right called for, say, abolishing child welfare agencies.

The effectiveness of the attack now has Democrats who are otherwise loath to speak ill of BLM complaining about what its catchy slogan did to the party.

After support for BLM surged last spring, positive feelings for it have been declining. A Pew Research report showed support for BLM dropping from 67% in June to 55% in September. Only 45% of white people expressed support for the movement.

Given that BLM elevated the dumbest, most self-destructive slogan in American politics in a very long time, and an even more atrocious policy, its numbers deserve to fall further. Advocates of defunding the police argued that setting out an extreme position could have a political effect even if it had no chance of enactment.

They proved exactly right—just not how they expected.

ington’s aerospace industry as commercial aviation struggles through the pandemic.

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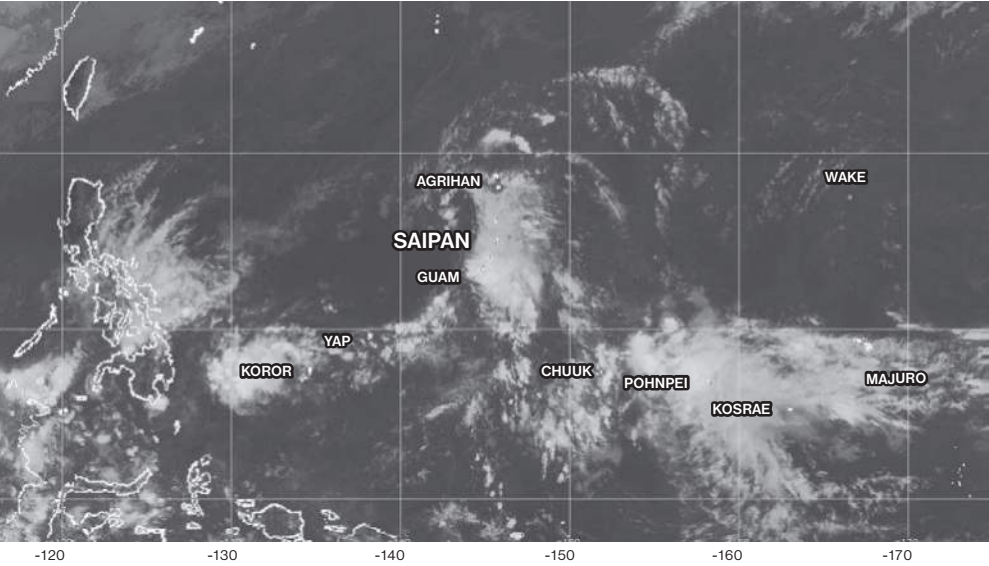
## A MILESTONE

From Page 8



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with scattered locally heavy showers and isolated thunderstorms.	
89°	78°	89°	78°	89°	78°	88°	77°	88°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:53 AM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough is located over the Marianas with an embedded circulation located between Guam and Rota. This circulation is causing breezy conditions and winds are beginning to shift from east to southeast. This system will produce numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms through Tuesday. Buoys show seas between 6 to 7 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

## STOP THE SPREAD

**T**he Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

**Continue good hand hygiene**

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

**Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic**

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
  - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
  - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

**Rumor control**

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

*Source: Office of the Governor*

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MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Yap	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:23 AM	5:43 PM
Wednesday	6:23 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:24 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:25 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:18 AM	1:58 PM
Wednesday	-	2:05 AM	2:33 PM
Thursday	-	2:51 AM	3:08 PM
Friday	-	3:37 AM	3:43 PM
Saturday	-	-	4:24 AM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Cloudy	70° / 61°	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	45° / 23°	
Hong Kong	Cloudy	64° / 61°	
Honolulu	Windy	79° / 71°	
London	Showers	48° / 36°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	84° / 59°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	88° / 79°	
Melbourne	Showers	86° / 66°	
Miami	Thunderstorms	80° / 69°	
New York	Sunny	52° / 43°	
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	52° / 43°	
Paris	Showers	54° / 41°	
Busan	Mostly Sunny	54° / 48°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	64° / 52°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	63° / 44°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	65° / 54°	
Seoul	Rain	46° / 36°	
Tokyo	Sunny	57° / 39°	
Washington, DC	Sunny	55° / 39°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
2:48 AM	LOW TIDE	1.12	
9:12 AM	HIGH TIDE	0.30	
4:18 PM	LOW TIDE	1.67	
11:01 PM	HIGH TIDE	0.58	

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2020

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:55am	7:35am	1, 4, 6	UA174	5:10am	5:51am	1, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:55am	9:50pm	1 via Guam	UA184/174	10:40pm	5:51am+1	3, 5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5	UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	1, 3, 5

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2020

SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri	3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri	3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Wed/Fri
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
				2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
				2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable



# Business

## Late-night massages at Sunshine Massage

By MARK RABAGO

mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

**S**unshine Massage operates until 1am and offers massages to those who work late at night, according to Lan Lan Yang, who runs the place.

Established at the start of 2020, Sunshine Massage is the fulfillment of Yang's longtime dream of opening and running her own massage parlor.

"At the beginning of this year we finally saw the realization of Sunshine Massage. Sunshine Massage had been an idea

mine and the few [masseuses] that have real experience that you can only find at Sunshine Massage," said

Yang in an interview with *Saipan Tribune*.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic reached Saipan, Sunshine Massage was already implementing safety guidelines,

**For more information or to book a massage session, call 287-9161.**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sunshine Massage is the longtime dream of Lan Lan Yang, who runs the massage parlor.

Yang said.

"Sunshine Massage was already instituting safeguards and precautionary health measures early in the year. Looking after our clients' comfort and our cleanliness are some of our best attributes. Once the government-mandated shutdown was lifted, we thrived because of that," she said. "Not only are we certified and licensed by the government but the measures we take for the health, safety, and welfare of the community go beyond the scope of the COVID-19 guidelines."

Unlike other massage establishments on island, Sunshine Massage always had a strong local customer base. "By respecting the nature and customs of our clients, they receive the best treatment as to their specific needs. This, and other things, such as the size of the shop, maximizing comfort, safety, and privacy, enables us to provide the best massage on Saipan."

Since it reopened shortly after the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force lowered the islands' Vulnerability Level to Blue, Yang said they've had a steady flow of customers and the most sought-after treatment is their oil massage.

"We have decades of experience. We tailor our massages to the individual needs of our clients. Our staff is also well known as the best on the island," she said.

Currently, there are plans to expand to the second floor to augment their two single-bed massage rooms.

Sunshine Massage is located across GIG Discotheque in Garapan and is open seven days a week from 11am to 1am. For more information or to book a massage session, call 287-9161.



MARK RABAGO

Sunshine Massage has plans to expand to the second floor to augment their two single-bed massage rooms.



MARK RABAGO

Sunshine Massage is located across GIG Discotheque in Garapan and is open seven days a week from 11am to 1am.

## Days Inn by Wyndham Guam invests in virus killing technology

**GUAM**—Days Inn by Wyndham Guam revved up its cleaning protocol by equipping each guest room with AirDog, an advanced air filtration system; and sanitizing even more thoroughly with Protexus a top of the line electrostatic sprayer providing next generation infection control. Guests can breathe easy with the patented AirDog installed in their room as the system is proven to kill viruses as small as 14.6 nanometers (smaller than the coronavirus that ranges 60-140nm).

With the need to elevate guest and employee safety, hotel owners partnered with AirDog creators, Silicon Valley Air Expert Inc., and licensed distributor, John Ko of Hanna Enterprises LLC, to bring this technology to the island. The Days Inn by Wyndham Guam is the first and only hotel on the island

to feature the AirDog as a standard room amenity.

To elevate sanitization even further, the hotel invested in the Protexus electrostatic sprayers. This electrostatic feature fuses hospital grade disinfectants onto every surface in its range, providing a fuller coverage, unlike conventional spraying or wiping.

"We want our guests to be confident knowing our team is taking every precaution to ensure the cleanliness of our hotel. The world today is so unpredictable. We decided to embrace this new norm with permanent solutions like our investments in the patented virus killing air purifier that reinforces our enhanced 360° hospital grade disinfection," said Sunardi Li, president of Days Inn by Wyndham Guam Tamuning and Sentry Hospitality Corp.

AirDog X8 purifying the lobby air in the Days Inn

by Wyndham Guam for a safe welcome.

### About Protexus PX200ES

The Protexus PX200ES electrostatic sprayer provides hospital-grade disinfection for guest and staff peace of mind. Count on us for crisp, clean air in the first hotel on Guam to put the AirDog in every room and rest easy with elevated cleaning standards set in place at Days Inn by Wyndham Guam. Enjoy a short getaway or stay longer with our Stay Close to Home limited time offer. Call direct at (671) 646-3297 for the best rates or visit [www.wyndhamhotels.com](http://www.wyndhamhotels.com).

Although the hotel has enhanced cleaning measures in place, we remind the guests that COVID-19 is a volatile virus that can lead to illness and death. The risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public setting, accom-

modation, or where others are present.

### About Sentry Hospitality Corp.

Sentry Hospitality Corp. owns and operates three midscale Guam hotels, including the Days Inn by Wyndham Guam Tamuning, providing comfort and value for the everyday traveler. Local and veteran owned, the company actively gives back to the community through its ICare initiative that supports various organizations such as the Guam USO, Guam Animals in Need, Special Olympics Guam and, Make A Wish Guam.

### About Days Inn by Wyndham

Days Inn by Wyndham is a globally recognized hotel brand with nearly 1,800 economy to upper midscale properties located throughout the globe. Most properties



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Days Inn by Wyndham Guam has equipped each guest room with AirDog, an advanced air filtration system; and Protexus, a top of the line electrostatic sprayer providing next generation infection control.

offer free Wi Fi, complimentary DayBreak continental breakfast, meeting rooms, banquet facilities, copy and fax services, fitness centers, and more. Travelers also have the opportunity to earn and redeem points through Wyndham Rewards the brand's guest loyalty program, which can be joined for free at [www.wyndhamrewards.com](http://www.wyndhamrewards.com).

Days Inn hotels are independently owned and operated under franchise agreements with Days Inns Worldwide, Inc. (or its affiliate). DIW is a subsidiary of Wyndham Hotel Group, LLC and parent company Wyndham Worldwide Corporation (WYN). Reservations and information are available by visiting [www.daysinn.com](http://www.daysinn.com). (PR)



# Nation

## Biden expected to nominate Blinken as secretary of state

WASHINGTON (AP)—President-elect Joe Biden is expected to nominate Antony Blinken as secretary of state, according to multiple people familiar with the Biden team's planning.

Blinken, 58, served as deputy secretary of state and deputy national security adviser during the Obama administration and has close ties with Biden. If nominated and confirmed, he would be a leading force in the incoming administration's bid to reframe the U.S. relationship with the rest of the world after four years in which President Donald Trump questioned longtime alliances.

In nominating Blinken, Biden would sidestep potentially thorny issues that could have affected Senate confirmation for two other candidates on his short list to be America's top diplomat: Susan Rice and Sen. Chris Coons.

Rice would have faced significant GOP opposition and likely rejection in the Senate. She has long been a target of Republicans, including for statements she made after the deadly 2012 attacks on Americans in Benghazi, Libya.

Coons' departure from the Senate would have come as other Democratic senators are being considered for administrative posts and the party is hoping to win back the Senate. Control hangs on the result of two runoff elections in Georgia in January.

Biden is likely to name his Cabinet picks in tranches, with groups of nominees focused on a specific top area, like the economy, national security or public health, being announced at once. Advisers to the president-elect's transition have said they'll make their first Cabinet announcements on Tuesday.

If Biden focuses on national security that day, Michèle



In this Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016, file photo, Deputy Secretary of State Antony Blinken testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing on Syria. AP

Flournoy, a veteran of Pentagon policy jobs, is a top choice to lead the Defense Department. Jake Sullivan, a longtime adviser to Biden and Hillary Clinton, is also in the mix for a top job, including White House national security adviser.

For his part, Blinken recently participated in a national security briefing with Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris and has weighed in publicly on notable foreign policy issues in Egypt and Ethiopia.

Biden's secretary of state would inherit a deeply demoralized and depleted career workforce at the State Department. Trump's two secretaries of state, Rex Tillerson and Mike Pompeo, offered weak resistance to the administration's attempts to gut the agency, which were thwarted only by congressional intervention.

Although the department escaped massive proposed cuts of more than 30% in its budget for three consecutive

years, it has seen a significant number of departures from its senior and rising mid-level ranks, from which many diplomats have opted to retire or leave the foreign service given limited prospects for advancements under an administration that they believe does not value their expertise.

A graduate of Harvard University and Columbia Law School and a longtime Democratic foreign policy presence, Blinken has aligned himself with numerous former senior national security officials who have called for a major reinvestment in American diplomacy and renewed emphasis on global engagement.

"Democracy is in retreat around the world, and unfortunately it's also in retreat at home because of the president taking a two-by-four to its institutions, its values and its people every day," Blinken told The Associated Press in September. "Our friends know that Joe Biden knows who

they are. So do our adversaries. That difference would be felt on day one."

Blinken served on the National Security Council during the Clinton administration before becoming staff director for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee when Biden was chair of the panel. In the early years of the Obama administration, Blinken returned to the NSC and was then-Vice President Biden's national security adviser before he moved to the State Department to serve as deputy to Secretary of State John Kerry.

Biden has pledged to build the most diverse government in modern history, and he and his team often speak about their desire for his administration to reflect America. He is being watched to see whether he will make history by nominating the first woman to lead the Pentagon, the Treasury Department or the Department of Veterans Affairs, or the first African American at the top

of the Defense Department, the Interior Department or the Treasury Department.

Ron Klain, Biden's incoming chief of staff, said Sunday the Trump administration's refusal to clear the way for Biden's team to have access to key information about agencies and federal dollars for the transition is taking its toll on planning, including the Cabinet selection process. Trump's General Services Administration has yet to acknowledge that Biden won the election—a determination that would remove those roadblocks.

"We're not in a position to get background checks on Cabinet nominees. And so there are definite impacts. Those impacts escalate every day," Klain told ABC's "This Week."

Even some Republicans have broken with Trump in recent days and called on him to begin the transition. Joining the growing list were Sens. Kevin Cramer of North Dakota, Lamar Alexander of Tennessee, Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska. Former Republican Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey, a longtime Trump supporter, told ABC that it was time for the president to stop contesting the outcome and called Trump's legal team seeking to overturn the election a "national embarrassment."

Meanwhile, planning was underway for a pandemic-modified inauguration Jan. 20. Klain said the Biden team was consulting with Democratic leadership in the House and Senate over their plans.

"They're going to try to have an inauguration that honors the importance and the symbolic meaning of the moment, but also does not result in the spread of the disease. That's our goal," Klain said.

Jury duty? No thanks say many, forcing trials to be delayed

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—Jury duty notices have set Nicholas Philbrook's home on edge with worries about him contracting the coronavirus and passing it on to his father-in-law, a cancer survivor with diabetes in his mid-70s who is at higher risk of developing serious complications from COVID-19.

Philbrook and his wife, Heather Schmidt, of Camarillo, California, have been trying to convince court officials that he should be excused from jury duty because her father lives with them. But court officials told him that is not a valid reason and he must appear in court early next month.

"My main concern is you still have to go into a building, you still have to be around a set number of people," said Philbrook, 39, a marketing company editor. "In an enclosed space, how safe are you? It just doesn't feel like a right time still to be doing that kind of stuff on a normal basis."

People across the country have similar concerns amid resurgences of the coronavirus, a fact that has derailed plans to resume jury trials in many courthouses for the first time since the pandemic started.

Within the past month, courts in Hartford, Connecticut, San Diego and Norfolk, Virginia, have had to delay jury selection for trials because too few people responded to jury duty summonses. The non-response rates are much higher now than they were before the pandemic, court officials say.

Judges in New York City, Indiana, Colorado and Missouri declared mistrials recently because people connected to the trials either tested positive for the virus or had symptoms.

"What the real question boils down to are people willing to show up to that court and sit in a jury trial?" said Bill Raftery, a senior analyst with the National Center for State Courts. "Many courts have been responsive to jurors who have said that they're not comfortable with coming to court and doing jury duty and therefore offering deferrals simply because of concerns over COVID."

Also this month, state court systems in Connecticut, New York and New Jersey and courts in Denver, Colorado, were among those to suspend all jury trials because of rising virus rates.

## Trump campaign legal team distances itself from Powell

WASHINGTON (AP)—Perhaps Sidney Powell has gone too far for even Rudy Giuliani this time.

The Trump campaign's legal team moved to distance itself Sunday from the firebrand conservative attorney after a tumultuous several days in which Powell made multiple incorrect statements about the voting process, unspooled unsupported and complex conspiracy theories and vowed to "blow up" Georgia with a "biblical" court filing.

"Sidney Powell is practicing law on her own. She is not a member of the Trump Legal Team. She is also not a lawyer for the President in his personal capacity," Giuliani and another lawyer for Trump, Jenna

Ellis, said in a statement.

There was no immediate clarification from the campaign and Powell did not immediately return an email seeking comment.

The statement hints at further tumult for a legal team that has lost case after case in contested states as it works to overturn the results of the Nov. 3 election. Law firms have withdrawn from cases, and in the latest blow, a federal judge dismissed on Saturday night the Trump campaign's effort to block the certification of votes in Pennsylvania in a blistering ruling that described the arguments as "strained" and "unsupported by evidence."

Trump had heralded Powell's role as one of his law-

yers, tweeting on November 14 that she was part of a team of "wonderful lawyers and representatives" spearheaded by Giuliani.

But the terse Sunday evening statement was the latest sign of wariness over her approach even within some conservative circles. Fox News host Tucker Carlson said on his show last week that his team had asked Powell for evidence to support her claims, but that Powell had provided none.

Powell made headlines with her statements at a Thursday news conference where, joined by Giuliani and Ellis, she incorrectly suggested that a server hosting evidence of voting irregularities was located in Germany, that voting

software used by Georgia and other states was created at the direction of late Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez and that votes for Trump had probably been switched in favor of President-elect Joe Biden.

In a subsequent interview with Newsmax, she appeared to accuse Georgia's Republican governor, Brian Kemp, and its Republican secretary of state of being part of a conspiracy involving a voting-system contract award that she contends harmed Trump's reelection bid.

"Georgia's probably going to be the first state I'm going to blow up and Mr. Kemp and the secretary of state need to go with it," she said, later adding that a court filing she hoped to

submit this week involving the state would be "biblical."

The status of that lawsuit was unclear Sunday night.

Chris Krebs, who was recently fired by Trump as director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, tweeted Sunday night that "any claims of vote count manipulation" in Georgia "were nonsense from day 1" since the systems in the state had paper records that were validated in the recount.

Powell, a former federal prosecutor, took over last year as the lead lawyer for Trump's former national security adviser Michael Flynn, who pleaded guilty in special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation.



# Asia

## Seoul tightens virus rules, shuts nightclubs

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—South Korea is imposing stricter social distancing rules in the greater Seoul area to fight a coronavirus resurgence, as the country registered more than 300 new cases for the fifth straight day.

Health Minister Park Neung-hoo said Sunday that authorities have found 62 virus clusters in the past two weeks. He said the toughened distancing guidelines in the Seoul area will be enforced for two weeks starting Tuesday.

Under the rules, nightclubs and other high-risk entertainment facilities must shut down and late-night dining at restaurants will be banned. Customers won't be allowed to drink or eat inside coffee shops, internet cafes or fitness centers, while audiences at sports events will be limited to 10% of the stadium's capacity.

South Korea reported 330 new coronavirus cases on Sunday, raising its total to 30,733, including 505 deaths.

In other developments in the Asia-Pacific region:

■ Japan's Health Ministry says the daily tally of confirmed coronavirus cases hit a record for the fourth straight day on Sunday, at 2,508. Japan has had fewer than 2,000 coronavirus-related deaths so far, avoiding the toll of harder hit nations. But fears are growing about another surge. A flurry of criticism from opposition legislators and the public has slammed the government for being too slow in halting its "GoTo" tourism campaign, which encouraged travel and dining out with discounts. Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga on Saturday scrapped the

campaign, but only after many people had already made travel reservations for a three-day Thanksgiving weekend in Japan. Airports and restaurants have been packed. Some say the government should have offered to pay for cancellations, or stepped up PCR testing instead, if the goal is to keep the economy going amid a pandemic.

■ India registered 45,209 new cases amid a festival season surge in the capital and many other parts of the country. At least three states—Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat—have imposed night curfews in many cities. The Health Ministry on Sunday also registered 501 deaths in the past 24 hours, taking total fatalities up to 133,227.

■ South Australia and Victoria states eased COVID-19 restrictions Sunday as Australia heads into summer in a better position to fight the virus. Victoria, which was hardest hit, has gone 23 days without a new infection. In response, Premier Daniel Andrews announced a number of changes to restrictions. Mask-wearing outdoors, which until now has been mandatory, is no longer required where social distancing is possible. Masks will still have to be worn indoors and carried at all times. Home gatherings of up to 15 people will be allowed and up to 50 people can gather outdoors. Up to 150 people will be allowed at weddings, funerals or indoor religious services. Residents of South Australia emerged from a state-wide lockdown at midnight Saturday, and are now able to visit bars and restaurants in groups of up to 10

and host gatherings up of to 50 people with social distancing.

■ Authorities are conducting mass testing and shutting down schools after China reported three new domestically transmitted cases in the past 24 hours—two in northern Inner Mongolia province and one in Shanghai. The city of Manzhouli, in Inner Mongolia, will start testing all its residents on Sunday, a day after the two cases were discovered. The

city has suspended classes and shut public venues, telling residents to not gather for dinner banquets. Local authorities in Shanghai found one more case Saturday after testing 15,416 people following recent locally transmitted cases. The city is testing all residents in the Pudong New Area district. China is already conducting mass testing for up to 3 million residents in the northern city of Tianjin after five cases

were found there last week. The total number of confirmed cases in China is 86,431.

■ Authorities in Sri Lanka said more than 600 coronavirus cases have been detected from the country's highly congested prisons as infections surge in the capital and its suburbs. A total of 652 cases have been detected at five prisons in the island nation, including 609 inmates and 43 prison officers. Sri Lankan prisons are highly congested,

with more than 26,000 inmates crowded in facilities with a total capacity of 10,000. Sri Lanka has seen a fresh outbreak of the virus since last month, when two clusters—one centered at a garment factory and the other at a fish market—emerged in the capital, Colombo, and its suburbs. There have been 16,251 confirmed cases from the two clusters. Sri Lanka has had a total of 19,771 cases, including 83 fatalities.

### MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

† *Vicente (Ben) Cabrera Attao*

JULY 19, 1952 - MARCH 26, 2020



We, the family of the late †Vicente Cabrera Attao- lovingly known as "Ben," would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all our family and friends, both near and far, for all the love and support you have given us during this difficult time. Your presence at his memorial services (both in Idaho and Saipan) and prayers have helped us tremendously. As we are so thankful for the memories we hold in our hearts, we are even more grateful to know that †Ben is resting with our Lord and Savior.

May our Lord bless each of you.

Un dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Hiimaqis Qe'ciyew'yew.

*Elizabeth Arthur Attao, Children and Family*

## HK's Joshua Wong to plead guilty to protest charges

**HONG KONG** (AP)—Prominent Hong Kong pro-democracy activist Joshua Wong said Monday that he plans to plead guilty to charges related to a demonstration outside police headquarters during anti-government protests last year.

Ahead of a court hearing Monday, Wong said that he and fellow activist Ivan Lam would both plead guilty to organizing, taking part in and inciting protesters to join an unauthorized protest outside police headquarters in Wan Chai last June. Both Wong and Lam were members of the now-disbanded Demosisto political party.

"I am persuaded that neither prison bars, nor election ban, nor any other arbitrary powers would stop us from activism," Wong said.

"What we are doing now is to explain the value of free-

dom to the world, through our compassion to whom we love, so much that we are willing to sacrifice the freedom of our own. I'm prepared for the thin chance of walking free."

Those found guilty of taking part in an unlawful assembly could face as long as five years in prison depending on the severity of the offense.

Wong rose to prominence as a student leader during the 2014 Umbrella Movement pro-democracy protests and is among a growing number of activists being charged for various relatively minor offenses since Beijing in June imposed a sweeping national security law on the territory that has severely restricted political speech.

Pro-democracy supporters have said the legal charges are part of a campaign to harass and intimidate them.



# World

## G-20 summit ends with support for COVID-19 vaccines for all

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)**—Leaders of the world's most powerful nations wrapped up the Group of 20 summit on Sunday, vowing to spare no effort to protect lives and ensure affordable access to COVID-19 vaccines for all people.

The two-day summit of heads of state was held virtually due to the coronavirus pandemic, which has killed at least 1.38 million people globally, with the world's highest death tolls recorded in seven of the G-20 countries. The virus has wiped out hundreds of millions of jobs globally and plunged millions into extreme poverty.

The virus "revealed vulnerabilities in our preparedness and response and underscored our common challenges," the G-20 said in a final statement that focused heavily on battling the coronavirus, enhancing environmental protections and supporting the global economy.

The group vowed "to spare no effort to protect lives."

The G-20, which includes the U.S., India, China, the U.K., France, Germany, Japan and others, also stressed the importance of global access to COVID-19 vaccines, drugs and tests.

"We will spare no effort to ensure their affordable and equitable access for all people, consistent with members' commitments to incentivize innovation," the statement said.

The G-20 expressed support for efforts like COVAX, an international initiative to distribute COVID-19 vaccines to countries worldwide. The U.S., however, has declined to join

under President Donald Trump.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel told reporters Sunday in Berlin after the virtual summit that Germany had given financial support to the COVAX initiative, but that more money was needed.

The G-20 statement did not directly address an urgent appeal by U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, who said \$28 billion in additional investment is needed for mass manufacturing, procurement and delivery of new COVID-19 vaccines around the world, including \$4 billion immediately.

There is also concern that countries such as Britain, the U.S., France and Germany have directly negotiated deals with pharmaceutical companies, meaning that the vast majority of the world's vaccine supply next year is already reserved.

"Fortunately, there's now hope for vaccines," Merkel said, adding that "it is important that not only Europe secures vaccines, as the European Union is doing now, but ... that it is important for the entire world" to have access to vaccines.

She said it is important that COVAX starts negotiating with the producers of potential vaccines based on the money it already has, but that she was somewhat worried those negotiations had not happened yet.

Saudi Arabia's King Salman rounded out the summit, saying the G-20's final statement "succeeded in sending out a message of hope and reassurance to our citizens and all people around the world."

"This is what the world has

been expecting from us. This achievement today is a culmination of our joint efforts throughout this challenge-fraught year," the Saudi monarch said.

Saudi Arabia presided over the G-20 this year and was host of the virtual summit, which was originally intended to be held in-person in Riyadh before the pandemic. During the Saudi king's speech, small video squares showed the leaders of Germany, France, the U.K., Canada, South Korea, China, India and South Africa watching the final remarks. Trump participated in the summit with prerecorded speeches, but was not in attendance for the virtual summit's conclusion.

It appeared all G-20 countries agreed to the full content of the final statement, with the exception of Turkey, which was due to give a press conference later Sunday explaining further.

Delegates from the G-20 had convened virtually throughout the year to discuss the coronavirus, agreeing to suspend debt payments for the world's poorest nations until mid-2021 to allow those countries to focus their spending on health care and social support programs. The G-20 called on private lenders to join the effort.

Already, 46 countries have requested to benefit from the debt suspension initiative, amounting to \$5.7 billion in debt referral. The U.N. secretary general, however, has called on the G-20 to extend debt repayments through the end of 2021 and expand the scope to middle-income countries in need.

## Guatemala condemns fire at Congress; 12 injured in protests

**GUATEMALA CITY (AP)**—Guatemala's government called fires set by protesters at Congress "terrorist acts" while the Inter-American Human Rights Commission on Sunday condemned what it called an "excessive use of force" by police against demonstrators opposed to a new budget that slashes social spending.

Protesters broke into the Congress building and set one office afire on Saturday, and tossed rocks at police. Flames poured out of the building's neoclassical facade.

The protests were part of growing demonstrations against President Alejandro Giammattei and the legislature for approving a budget that cut educational and health spending. Lawmakers approved \$65,000 to pay for meals for themselves, but cut funding for coronavirus patients and

human rights agencies.

Police used tear gas and nightsticks to push demonstrators back, attacking not only about 1,000 demonstrators in front of Congress but also a much larger protest in front of the country's National Palace. Some protesters also damaged bus stations. Dozens of people were arrested but many were later ordered released.

The commission wrote in its Twitter account that it "condemns the excessive use of force by authorities against demonstrators" but also asked for an investigation into "the acts of vandalism against Congress, after which State agents indiscriminately suppressed the protest."

It said governments "must respect peaceful demonstration," but when faced with violence, they "must identify persons—protesters or third parties—who risk rights or in-

fringe State property."

The Organization of American States sought more of a middle ground.

"Regarding yesterday's demonstrations, we reiterate that there is a right to protest, which must be absolutely guaranteed, but there is no right to vandalism," the OAS said in a statement.

"The governance and stability of the country must be ensured. The governments of 'notables' that have not been elected by the people are essentially undemocratic and undemocratizing," the OAS wrote. "The mandates granted by the people in democratic elections must be respected, that is the meaning of democracy. Likewise, governance does not imply impunity, but quite the contrary, it must be reaffirmed by absolutely clear patterns of fighting corruption."

# Overdrive

## AUTO REVIEW

## For all its quirks, it should be the Ford Edgey ST

By SCOTT STURGIS  
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER



2020 Ford Edge ST-Line.

TNS

**2020 Ford Edge ST AWD:** A Mustang but taller?

**Price:** \$52,540 as tested. The ST Performance Brake Package added \$2,695; Cold Weather Package added heated steering wheel and more for \$495. More below.

**Conventional wisdom:** "No quicker than the old Sport model," says Car and Driver.

**Marketer's pitch:** "Top IIHS safety pick." Wow. Exciting.

**Reality:** Somewhere between a Focus RS—and a Windstar.

**What's new:** The Ford Edge ST is a new name (well, new for 2019) for the sporty version of the Ford Edge midsize SUV.

**Driver's Seat:** But first, Ford Edge, how I haven't missed your cockpit. The long dashboard top, second only to an old Windstar or Pontiac Trans Sport for pizza box carrying abilities. The angled dashboard front, with the instrument cluster and infotainment systems oddly contorted. The seat that won't go the way I want and the steering wheel that telescopes just not far enough.

**Odd perch:** Maybe the name "Edge" refers to the feeling I get peering over the edge of the long, long hood? The front feels so long it's like the opposite of a minivan. It's like piloting a Duesenberg or a 1947 Lincoln Continental.

**Up to speed:** Despite its quirks, much is forgiven when driving. The Edge ST has plenty of juice to liven things up; Sport mode especially quickens the pace.

The 2.7-liter EcoBoost V-6 creates 335 horsepower and gets to 60 mph in 6.1 seconds, according to Motor Trend. But Car and Driver and Motor Trend both note that it doesn't have the oomph of earlier Sport models.

Its power also comes on like an old Econoline, though—the handling gets erratic quickly in hard starts.

**Twisty:** The 8-speed transmission works smoothly, but the dial shifter is not my cup of tea. Especially in three-point turns. Navigating the tight turnaround in the Sturgis family driveway, back and forth, back and forth—the dial doesn't feel intuitive, and Mr. Driver's Seat fears he might set the dial to "Smash."

Consider he had more than once absentmindedly cranked up the stereo instead of putting the vehicle into gear. Let's hope the reverse never occurs.

The all-wheel drive is standard on the Edge ST.

**On the road:** The Edge ST does handle nicely on country roads, though it's no sports car. It's super for cruising on the highway as well, handling high speeds with aplomb.

On the down side, it translates all the bends, dips, and washboards distinctly, and maybe even with extra amplification.

**Stuck in traffic:** The other down side to the Edge ST comes when you're not zipping around by yourself. All the flaws of the vehicle seemed pronounced when I wasn't able to push it—the hard shifts and the slightly erratic accelerator made everyone glare at Mr. Driver's Seat on occasion.

**Driver's Seat:** Despite my opening whines, the Edge ST provides a comfortable place for drivers. Even Sturgis Kid 4.0 remarked on how comfortable the front passenger seat is. But the wings sit quite close together in the ST bolstered suede seats and make for sore hips after a while.

**Friends and stuff:** The rear seat offers room and comfort as well. Stretch out

your legs and wiggle your toes, and even tall people should be able to sit straight up, and the seat sits at a nice angle. Only the middle person will suffer decreased foot room and legroom because of the console.

Bun warmers back here come as part of a \$4,840 package that also cooled the front seats and added panoramic sunroof, evasive steering assist, adaptive cruise, and more.

Cargo space is 39.2 cubic feet, 73.4 with the rear seat folded. It seems immense, but the rear window slopes down drastically, so don't order that furniture for store pickup just yet.

**Play some tunes:** The 12-speaker B&O sound system with 8-inch touchscreen could be easier to get around, but it's a leap ahead of 8-years-ago Ford. A center dial controls volume, while buttons help find stations and change songs.

Sound from the system is really good, probably an A-.

**Keeping warm and cool:** The HVAC controls are also a little more complicated than they need to be. Give me three dials and I'm happy, but we have buttons for fan speed and buttons for temperature. For air source, it's back to the touchscreen.

**Fuel economy:** I averaged about 22 mpg in the usual post-COVID realm of testing, with a few highway trips to King of Prussia added in.

**Where it's built:** Oakville, Ontario

How it's built: Consumer Reports gives the Edge a 3 out of 5 for reliability.

**In the end:** If you like the Edge, and you're in a hurry, you'll like this Edge. Mr. Driver's Seat finds too much distraction in the cockpit, and the price is getting into Lexus territory anyway ... so I'd probably opt for the Lexus.



# Life & Style

## Swift wins top prize at AMAs, says she's re-recording music

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Taylor Swift won her third consecutive artist of the year prize at the American Music Awards, but she missed the show for a good reason: She said she's busy re-recording her early music after her catalog was sold.



**Swift**

In a video that aired during Sunday's awards show, the pop star said "the reason I'm not there tonight is I'm actually re-recording all of my old music in the studio where we originally recorded it. So it's been amazing. And I can't wait for you to hear it."

Last year music manager

Scooter Braun—who manages Justin Bieber and Ariana Grande—announced that his Ithaca Holdings company had acquired Big Machine Label Group, the home to Swift's first six albums. This month Braun said

he has sold the master rights to Swift's first six albums to an investment company; Swift acknowledged the sale on social media and said she would not work with the new buyers because Braun was still involved.

Instead, she headed back to the studio.

Swift beat out Bieber, Post Malone and Roddy Ricch to

win the top award. She also won favorite music video and favorite pop/rock female artist, winning three honors and tying Bieber, Dan + Shay and the Weeknd for most wins Sunday.

The Weeknd lost artist of the year, but he still kicked off his all-star week as a big winner: Days before he's expected to land multiple Grammy nominations, he won favorite soul/R&B male artist, favorite soul/R&B album for "After Hours" and favorite soul/R&B song for "Heartless" two days before the 2021 Grammy

nominations are announced.

"The last time I received this award it was given to me by the late, great Prince," he said after winning favorite soul/R&B album. "And, you know, he's the reason I get to constantly challenge the genre of R&B and yeah, I'd like to dedicate this to him."

The Weeknd didn't break character throughout the three-hour show with his gauze-wrapped face, which matched

the vibe of his recent album and music videos where he appears bloodied and bruised. He accepted his awards and performed with his face wrapped in gauze.

Kenny G joined the Weeknd for his performance, playing the sax in downtown Los Angeles as the Weeknd walked across a bridge singing "In Your Eyes." He finished the performance singing "Save Your Tears."

The Weeknd was one of several artists who appeared live at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles for the fan-voted awards show. Others recently taped their performances because of the coronavirus pandemic, though host Taraji P. Henson—who appeared live from the venue—said the few audience members sitting in the mezzanine practiced social distancing, wore masks and were tested for the virus.

Henson joked that A-list celebrities were in the audience, including Beyoncé, though cardboard cut-out of the singer, Jay-Z and other stars appeared in seats.

But a good number of chart-toppers were in the building. Breakthrough singer-rapper Doja Cat performed and won new artist of the year and favorite soul/R&B female artist. Grammy-winning country duo Dan + Shay beautifully performed "I Should Probably Go to Bed" and won favorite country duo or group, collaboration of the year and favorite country song for "10,000 Hours," the latter two shared with Bieber. And Megan Thee Stallion—won favorite rap/

hip-hop songs for "WAP" with Cardi B—performed "Body" from her recently released debut album "Good News."

Bieber and Shawn Mendes kicked off the AMAs with a pre-taped performance of their new duet "Monster," marking the first time they performed the song together. It began with a stripped-down Bieber singing his recent hit "Lonely," with songwriter-producer Benny Blanco on piano, and "Holy," where background dancers wearing masks joined him.

Mendes, strumming his guitar, then appeared for "Monster," which featured the twentysomethings singing lyrics about about fame and growing up as celebrities who attracted massive public attention. Mendes later sang his song "Wonder" during the show, which aired on ABC.

Katy Perry, in her first performance since giving birth to her first child, gave a strong performance of the emotional and hopeful song "Only Love," which featured a surprise guest appearance from Darius Rucker, who sang and played guitar. With flaming red lights glaring behind her, Billie Eilish sang her new song "Therefore I Am," as her brother-songwriter-producer Finneas backed her on guitar. Jennifer Lopez and Maluma teamed up to perform their new songs "Pa' Ti" and "Lonely" from the film "Marry Me," which both of them star in, while Dua Lipa—who won favorite pop/rock song—floated in the air during her performance of "Levitating."

### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### Rachel Maddow returns to air, describes partner's virus bout

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Rachel Maddow made an emotional return Thursday to her MSNBC show, saying her partner's bout with COVID-19 was so serious they thought it might kill her. Maddow has been off the air for roughly two weeks since disclosing she had been in close contact with someone who tested positive for the coronavirus. Maddow didn't disclose who it was at the time, but said Thursday evening it was her partner, Susan Mikula. "At one point, we really thought it was a possibility it might kill her and that's why I've been away," Maddow said. "She is the center of my life," she added. Maddow said her partner is recovering and will be OK, but that it didn't seem that way at the outset of her illness. Maddow said she's tested negative

so far for the virus.

#### 'Coming 2 America' to launch on Amazon Prime in March

**(AP)**—"Coming 2 America," the sequel to the 1988 Eddie Murphy comedy, has landed on a date to come to audiences. The film which reunites Murphy and Arsenio Hall will debut on Amazon Prime Video on March 5, 2021, Amazon Studios said Friday. Originally a Paramount Pictures theatrical release, the studio sold the film to the streamer last month but had yet to finalize a date. "Coming to America was a cultural phenomenon that is one of the most loved and celebrated comedies of all time," said Jennifer Salke, head of Amazon Studios, in a statement. "We know audiences around the world will fall in love with this hilarious, joyful movie that will surely become a timeless favorite." James Earl Jones, Shari

Headley and John Amos will also be reprising their roles alongside new additions like Wesley Snipes, Leslie Jones, Tracy Morgan and KiKi Layne.

#### Cars line up for miles for Tyler Perry Atlanta food giveaway

**ATLANTA (AP)**—Thousands of people jammed roads for miles in Atlanta on Sunday to try to get boxes of food and gift cards donated by entertainer Tyler Perry. Tyler Perry Studios said they had enough boxes of canned vegetables and \$25 gift cards for 5,000 families to drive through and pick up. The studio said it was out of food by 10 a.m. Sunday. The line started forming Saturday and at one point stretched for 5 miles (8 kilometers) south of downtown Atlanta, media outlets reported. Volunteers in protective equipment were handing out the food and gift cards.

#### White House Rose Garden adds Japanese American's sculpture

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The White House Rose Garden has a new addition, but it isn't a floral variety. Melania Trump announced Friday that artwork by Japanese American sculptor Isamu Noguchi has been installed on the east terrace of the famous garden, which she renovated earlier this year. Noguchi is the first Asian American artist to be featured in the White House collection, according to the first lady and the White House Historical Association. He died in 1988. Noguchi's piece, titled "Floor Frame," was a gift from the privately funded, nonprofit historical association. "This sculpture not only showcases diversity within our nation's finest art but it also highlights the beautiful contributions of Asian American artists to the landscape of our country," the first lady said in a statement announcing the installation.

## Cranky friend at work may be threat to advancement

**DEAR ABBY:** I moved to town not long before the pandemic and don't have many close friends here. One of my best friends is a co-worker, "Ronna," whom I love dearly.

Ronna has had an extremely rough past, including an extensive history of parental abuse that has left her thin-skinned and suspicious of authority figures. Because of this, she's constantly butting heads with our management team and confronting them about perceived slights.

While some of the points she makes are reasonable, many are taken too personally or blown way out of proportion, and she tends to act very dramatic/livid about it. I'm looking to move up in the company, and I'm torn between loyalty to my friend and the need to remain on good terms with our higher-ups. I'm also worried that my friendliness with management will lead to Ronna resenting or distrusting me. How can I safely navigate?

IN THE MIDDLE IN COLORADO

**DEAR IN THE MIDDLE:** Do not involve yourself in Ronna's problems on the job. If you do, they will spill over onto you. Maintain your personal relationship with her away from the office, while networking and trying to widen your circle of friends.

From what you have written, I doubt that Ronna will be working for your employer much longer. Workers who

react in a "very dramatic/livid" manner are usually laid off because their behavior is unprofessional and disruptive.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am having problems with my baby dad helping me with our 2-year-old daughter. I don't like the idea of putting him on child support. I have tried counseling with him. In addition to asking him to step up, I have tried giving him lists of what our daughter needs, and he still isn't helping. Instead he's asking me to help with his bills.

I don't know what to do. I really don't want to go after child support since he now has two jobs. I need his help, but I don't know how to get him to contribute. Any ideas?

STRUGGLING MOM IN OHIO

**DEAR MOM:** You have tried asking, you have tried counseling. The only option left to convince him to step up to the plate and fulfill his obligations as a father is to contact Child Support Services and ask for help.

P.S. You absolutely should NOT pay his bills!

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been asked by a close friend to officiate at his wedding. I'm honored to have been asked, and it would be easy for me to get the credentials, but I am not comfortable doing it for personal reasons. I know it's his special day, and he really wants me to do it. How can I politely decline without hurting our

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

friendship? I don't know how to word my refusal.

NOT FOR ME

**DEAR NOT:** Be honest to the degree that you can be without causing hurt feelings. Explain that you are honored to have been asked to officiate (which is true), but would not be comfortable in that role (also true). Then deflect by offering to support your friend in some other way on his special day.

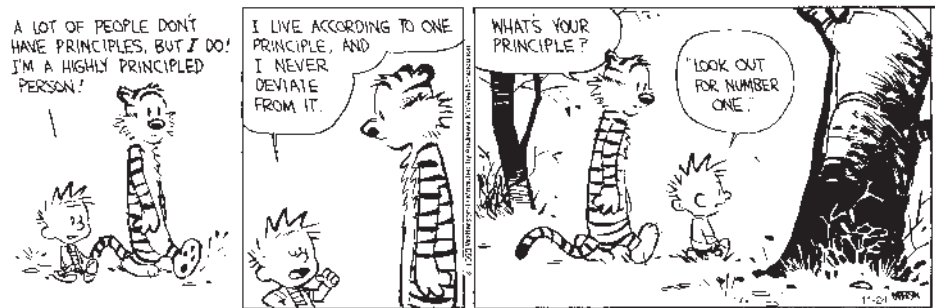
To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



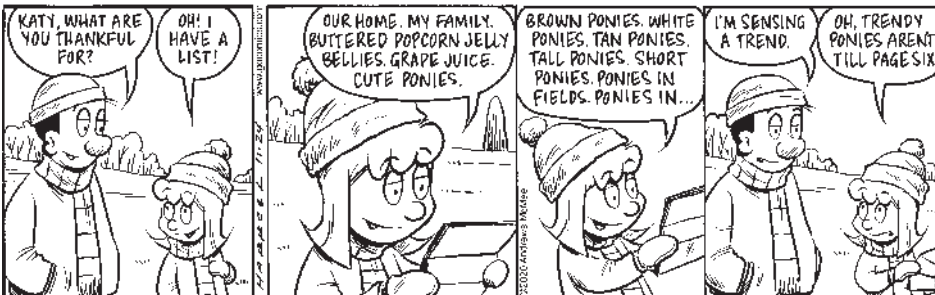
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



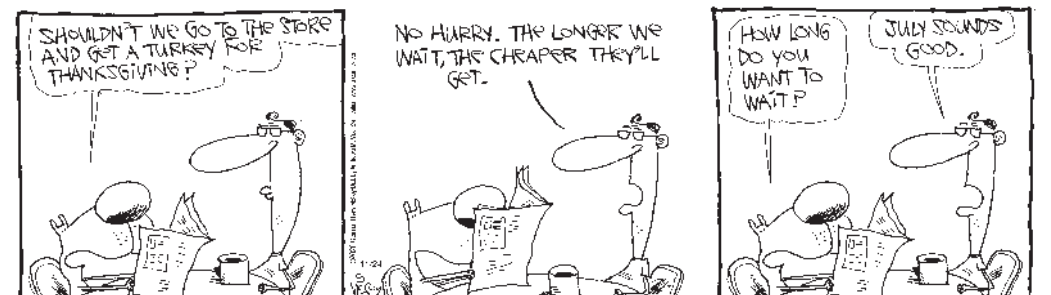
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Scored 100 on

5 Long lunch?

8 Small arts mer- rodents

12 Mrs. Dithers of "Blondie"

13 Weep

14 Teen fave

15 Girl's shoe style

17 Reporter's quest

18 Golfer Ernie

19 Boom times

20 Trite

21 French Mrs.

22 "The Big Bang Theory" role

23 Be nosy

26 Kind of vote

30 In — (shortly)

31 Copper head?

32 Corporate symbol

33 Drive-in servers

35 Postpone

**DOWN**

1 Summit

2 Furnace fuel

3 Messes up

4 24 hours

5 Painting of a scene

6 Grecian vessels

7 "See ya!"

8 Bourbon cocktail

9 Concept

10 Monk's hood

11 Otherwise

16 Skydive

20 Enervate

21 Coffee blend

22 Caviar base

23 Pouch

24 Code-breaking gp.

25 Not 'neath

26 "Nova" ailer

27 Texter's chuckle

28 Turkish title

29 Singer Orbison

31 Chest-beating beast

34 Lab eggs

35 Nitwit

37 Persnick-ety

38 Must have

39 "To Live and Die —"

40 Russian refusal

41 Eric of "Munich"

42 Trojan War hero

43 Challenge

44 Baseball's Hershisier

46 Pirate's chart

47 Cagers' gp.

**Solution time: 22 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 11-24**

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Sarah Hyland, 30; Katherine Heigl, 42; Colin Hanks, 43; Pete Best, 79.

**Happy Birthday:** Use your imagination. Look for alternative ways to use your knowledge, experience and skills to keep up with whatever is trending this year. Be a front-runner, step into the limelight and show off what you have to offer. Be a teacher and guide for those who look up to you. You'll gain respect if you are helpful and show concern. Your numbers are 6, 10, 18, 27, 34, 36, 43.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Pick up the pace, follow through with your plans and refuse to let anyone or anything upset you. Stay focused on what's important, and put your energy and effort into preparing for the future, not fretting over the past. ★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Welcome change into your life. Embrace new beginnings and challenges that excite you. Push yourself to the limit, and make improvements that build confidence and encourage you to go after what you want. Romance is favored. ★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** What you do to help others will benefit you as well. Get involved in something you care about, and you will make a difference. Don't shy away from adversity; stand up and be counted. Be part of the solution, not the problem. ★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Look for a creative outlet or do something you've always wanted to do but never had the time or the confidence to pursue. Pour your energy into something that will help you grow per-

sonally or professionally. Embrace change. ★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Soul-searching will lead to an effective plan. Refuse to let anyone else make up your mind for you. Stay strong, and do what's best for you. A change may not be welcome, but it will be to your advantage. ★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Take action and get involved, and positive change will lead to opportunity. Look at what you've accomplished, and proceed to make slight adjustments to ensure you continue to excel. A shift in the way you expand your interests, skills and knowledge will pay off. ★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Put more effort into partnerships and maintaining equality. Don't let anyone take advantage of you or put you in an awkward position. Diplomacy will help you outmaneuver anyone who gets in your way. Set a goal, and finish what you start. ★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Uncertainty will prevail if you aren't vocal about how you feel or what you want. Positive change will be the direct result of how you handle others. An adjustment to a relationship can benefit both parties. Propose something unique. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Clear a space that you can use to better yourself. Keeping busy will boost your morale and help clear your head. Be diplomatic, but don't let anyone talk you into doing or believing something that isn't true or in your best interest. ★★

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** You'll get an added push that will help you take care of business. You'll develop an incredible plan that will make your life more comfortable at home and work. Time spent with someone you love will improve your relationship. ★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Use your charm, experience and energy to get where you want to go. A chance to get ahead financially is within reach as long as you invest your time and effort in yourself. ★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Compliments will come your way, but before you fall prey to someone's charm, consider if there are ulterior motives at play. Verify facts, and stick to tried-and-true methods, and you will do just fine on your own. ★★

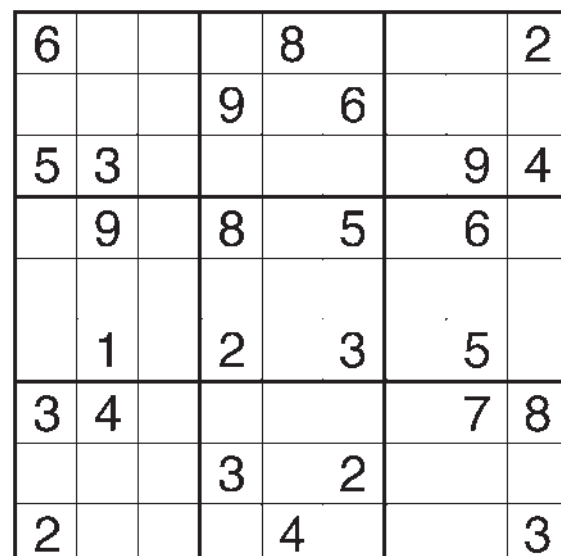
**Birthday Baby:** You are expressive, resourceful and proactive. You are flexible and helpful.

Visit [Eugenialast.com](http://Eugenialast.com), or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn. Copyright 2020 Andrews McMeel Syndication

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



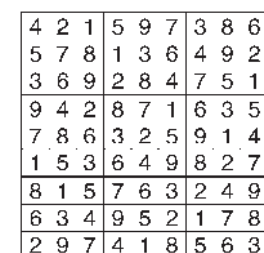
Difficulty Level ★★

11/24

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



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## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

**TAKING YOUR TEMPERATURE** Solution: 5 letters

T C S T R I P T I P M R A T F  
Y H E M E M O R Y L A S A B L  
M I E C O N F I R M R E R O E  
P L R R G U N C E L H E G D X  
A D G U M F T A I I A N S Y I  
N R E L A O S H N T I M G A B  
I E D N A U M S H T S N R O E  
C N T I R S T E I R I A E O L  
E N H E G A S A T D I N L S N  
L W O D N I W C A E N S T P A  
S A L T N U T E R A R L E R E  
I L D S T I R A C E U O S O L  
U A E U F U K S L S E W E B ©  
S R A E L E B S E V E N R E (A  
T O E N O T Y R U C R E M R (P

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Adult, Armpit, Basal, Body, Breathe, Button, Cap, Celsius, Children, Clean, Confirm, Degrees, Digital, Ear, Flexible, Glass, Heat, Hold, Infant, Insert, Instant, Laser, Low, Measure, Memory, Mercury, Mouth, Normal, Nurse, Oral, Plastic, Probe, Reading, Reset, Results, Rise, Scanner, Screen, Skin, Strip, Thermometer, Tone, Tongue, Tympanic, Waiting, Window

Yesterday's Answer: Peacock  
Treasures 16 and 18 are on sale through the end of the year! Purchase online at [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com), or call 1-800-642-6490.

## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



# Mitchell, Tatum agree on max extension



**UTAH** (AP)—Donovan Mitchell got the life-changing news Sunday and immediately began celebrating. He ripped off his T-shirt, ran out of the house and leaped into the pool.

And just as he did in his first three seasons with Utah, he made a huge splash.

Mitchell is now a max-contract recipient, he and the Jazz agreeing Sunday on a five-year extension that guarantees him \$163 million—the new paydays start kicking in with the 2021-22 season—and could be worth \$196 million if he reaches the All-NBA level.

“A dream does not become reality through magic it takes sweat, determination and hard work,” Mitchell wrote on Instagram after sharing a toast with CAA Basketball agent Ty Sullivan and some family members as the celebration continued.

The Jazz did not immediately comment. Typically, teams cannot discuss contracts publicly until they are signed, and it was unclear when Mitchell will put pen to paper to complete the transaction.

Mitchell averaged 20.5 points as a rookie, then 23.8 points in his second season and 24.0 points last season as a third-year player who wound up making the All-Star team for the first time. And even though the Jazz lost in first round of this past season’s playoffs in a seven-game epic against Denver—the Nuggets rallied from a 3-1 series deficit—Mitchell was dazzling.

He averaged 36.3 points in that series, including 57 points—the third-highest scoring total by any player in an NBA playoff game—in Game 1 of the matchup.

Meanwhile, the Boston Celtics are locking up one of their young stars. The Celtics agreed to sign forward Jayson Tatum to a max extension.

The five-year, \$195 million deal reportedly includes a player option in 2025, the fourth year of the extension. Tatum, 22, showed plenty of promise in his first two seasons, but emerged as a star during the 2019-20 season. Tatum—who the team selected with the No. 3 overall pick in the 2017 NBA draft—averaged 23.4 points and 7.0 rebounds while leading the Celtics to a 48-24 record last season. That performance earned Tatum his first NBA All-Star appearance. Tatum was also voted to the All-NBA Third Team.

With Tatum locked up for the foreseeable future, the Celtics should remain a major threat in the Eastern Conference. The Celtics still have



AP  
In this Aug. 30, 2020 file photo, Utah Jazz’s Donovan Mitchell, center, goes up to shoot as Denver Nuggets’ Jerami Grant, left, and Paul Millsap, right, defend during the second half of an NBA first round playoff game in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Jaylen Brown, Marcus Smart and Kemba Walker, giving the team a solid core for at least another year.

In other developments:

## DALLAS

Willie Cauley-Stein is returning to the Dallas Mavericks on an \$8.2 million, two-year contract, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press on Sunday.

The Mavericks acquired the veteran center from Golden State before the trading dead-

line last season, and his impact was minimal before he opted out of the restart following the coronavirus shutdown because of the impending birth of his daughter.

Cauley-Stein declined the \$2.3 million option on the two-year deal he signed with the Warriors. His return gives Dallas another option behind Kristaps Porzingis and Dwight Powell. It’s possible Porzingis and Powell will start, with Powell likely filling the traditional role of the center. Dallas

also has Boban Marjanovic in a backup role.

## GOLDEN STATE

The Warriors completed the trade that will bring guard Kelly Oubre to them from the Oklahoma City Thunder. Golden State gave up a conditional 2021 first-round draft pick and a 2021 second-round pick for Oubre, who will help the Warriors deal with the loss of Klay Thompson to major injury for the second consecutive season.

Oubre averaged a career-high 18.7 points and 6.4 rebounds in 56 games with Phoenix last season. He was traded to the Thunder last week.

## INDIANA

The Pacers completed the re-signing of Justin Holiday to a three-year, \$18 million deal. Holiday was the only Indiana player to appear in all 73 regular-season games a year ago, averaging 8.3 points.

“Re-signing Justin was one of our main priorities going

into free agency,” Pacers President Kevin Pritchard said. “His contributions last season were tremendous. He can play multiple positions and is extremely versatile.”

## LA LAKERS

For the second consecutive season, Marc Gasol will play for the defending NBA champions.

Gasol agreed to a two-year contract with the Lakers on Sunday, a person with knowledge of the deal told AP. ESPN first reported the agreement.

Gasol helped Toronto win the 2019 NBA title and then led Spain to the gold medal at the Basketball World Cup later that summer.

## PORTLAND

The Trail Blazers announced the re-signing of Rodney Hood, who agreed to a two-year contract. Hood tore his Achilles in December 2019.

“Rodney played a critical role in our run to the Western Conference Finals in 2018-19 and was off to a great start last year prior to his season being cut short due to injury,” Blazers President Neil Olshey.

## CLEVELAND

Looking to replace Tristan Thompson, the Cavaliers have acquired center JaVale McGee and a future draft pick from the Los Angeles Lakers for forwards Alfonzo McKinnie and Jordan Bell.

The Cavs will get a second-round pick in 2026 from the Lakers.

The 32-year-old McGee spent the past two seasons with Los Angeles after two with Golden State. The 7-footer averaged 6.6 points, 5.7 rebounds and 1.5 blocks for the NBA champions this past season

## ATLANTA

Bogdan Bogdanovic has signed a four-year offer sheet with the Atlanta Hawks worth \$72 million, Bogdanovic, a restricted free agent, will now wait and see if the Sacramento Kings match the offer.

The Kings had a sign-and-trade in place to send Bogdanovic to the Milwaukee Bucks that involved other players from each team. But it fell apart on the night of the draft reportedly because Bogdanovic had not agreed to the deal.

## Pelinka clears way for LeBron’s team-building clout

**LOS ANGELES**—Comparison might not truly be the thief of joy if Rob Pelinka was injected with truth serum, as he watched the opening moments of free agency.

The Los Angeles Lakers have been the home of perpetual drama, even following Larry O’Brien runs, but they’re the picture of physical and mental stability relative to their biggest competitors.

The moves the Lakers general manager has made illustrates in no way did he believe they were historic, or that if a few things broke differently they would still be hunting for their first title since 2010 as opposed to defending it.

Sentiment could’ve kept Pelinka from mining the league and coming up with Dennis Schroder in a trade with Oklahoma City, instead offering Rajon Rondo a contract lucrative enough to keep him from permanently sam-

pling Lou Williams’ lemon pepper wings in Atlanta.

Ego could’ve kept Pelinka from apparently surrendering to the best team-builder in the last decade, LeBron James, and making sure everyone knew the roster moves were his to cement his own standing in the league.

At James’ other stops, the men in charge used to bristle at the notion that the best player actually ran things, sometimes making moves without his blessing or even his outright wishes—perhaps out of resentment or traditional basketball norms.

But bringing in James comes with an unspoken covenant, so long as he’s near the top of the individual mountain. You deal with everything that comes with him, like it or not, and the rewards are usually worth the hassle if you understand the pecking order.

Talk to enough folks around the league, you’ll re-

alize it’s not as simple a task as it appears.

Instead, the Lakers took advantage of the Clippers’ misfortune to acquire James’ fellow Klutch Sports client Montrezl Harrell for a modest number given his Sixth Man of the Year award—a player whose playoff performance against the Denver Nuggets could be a harbinger for things to come, or merely a blip that James and coach Frank Vogel won’t allow to repeat itself.

It takes a while to remember Anthony Davis is actually a free agent, but we all know he’s not going anywhere, and any haggling over what deal he takes is minor.

Having James and Davis at the top of your balance sheets certainly makes things easier, let’s not get crazy here. And when you’re in Los Angeles, even amidst a pandemic, it’s still a place free agents want to play so the sell job isn’t

as tough as recruiting a blue-chipper to a mid-major.

The Lakers didn’t have to make cold-blooded basketball decisions, and even operating in this sterile environment makes it easier to remove emotion considering there’s little worry about fan favorites leaving the nest.

But they had to make prudent ones, because partnering with a player like James—or honestly, any superstar in today’s game—almost makes it feel like the stars are up for free agency every year because they wield so much power in the game and public opinion.

The Lakers are used to being targets, whether they’re champions or not.

But they can sit back and chuckle for a moment, watching the rest of the league trip over its shoelaces while they polish up Larry O’Brien, making room in the trophy case for another one. (AP/NBC)



# Mahomes rallies Chiefs late over Raiders



LAS VEGAS (AP) — Patrick Mahomes threw a 22-yard

touchdown pass to Travis Kelce with 28 seconds to play, and the Kansas City Chiefs avenged their only loss in the last 12 months with a 35-31 victory over the Las Vegas Raiders on Sunday night.

Mahomes passed for 348 yards and led two go-ahead scoring drives in the frantic fourth quarter for the defending Super Bowl champions, who split their season series with Las Vegas (6-4) in dramatic fashion.

Kelce caught eight passes for 127 yards for the Chiefs (9-1), who are in firm control of the race for their fifth straight AFC West title—but only after another thrilling comeback led by their Super Bowl MVP, who bounced back from his second interception of the season late in the first half.

The Raiders led 24-21 on Darren Waller's TD catch on the first play of the fourth quarter, but Mahomes led a 91-yard scoring drive midway through the period capped by Le'Veon Bell's first TD for Kansas City.

Derek Carr and the Raiders replied with a crisp drive ending on Jason Witten's 1-yard TD catch with 1:43 left.

But the Chiefs' powerhouse offense needed only 75 seconds to go 75 yards for another score, with Mahomes going 6 of 7 on the drive. Kelce got open across the middle for the go-ahead score.

Daniel Sorensen then picked off a heave to midfield by Carr with 19 seconds left, and the Chiefs kneeled out their 18th win in the last 19 games since Nov. 10, 2019.

Carr passed for 275 yards and three touchdowns in a strong performance, but the Raiders couldn't match their offensive excellence in their 40-32 win at Kansas City last month.

## Titans 30, Ravens 24, OT

Derrick Henry ran for a 29-yard touchdown with 5:21 left in overtime to cap another memorable performance against Baltimore, rallying Tennessee.

Running against a patchwork Ravens defensive line, Henry finished with 133 yards on 28 carries. It was his sixth 100-yard game of the season and put him over 1,000 yards for the third consecutive year.

It was reminiscent of Henry's outing last January, when he rambled for 195 yards to carry the Titans to a 28-12 upset of the top-seeded Ravens in the AFC divisional playoff.



## Steelers 27, Jaguars 3

Pittsburgh's most dominant defensive performance of the season kept the Steelers perfect. Terrell Edmunds and Minkah Fitzpatrick intercepted two passes each and the Steelers steamrolled their way to a 10-0 record.

Rookie quarterback Jake Luton looked lost most of the day against the Steelers, who allowed 206 yards and finished with two sacks. They celebrated each turnover by running into the end zone and posing for the cameras.

Ben Roethlisberger and Co. gladly shared the spotlight with one of the league's most disruptive defenses. Roethlisberger completed 32 of 46 passes for 267 yards and two touchdowns. He found Chase Claypool and Eric Ebron for scores.

## Colts 34, Packers 31, OT

After allowing three touchdown passes and 28 first-half points, the Colts gave up only three second-half points. They also forced a game-changing fumble less than a minute into overtime.

Rodrigo Blankenship won it with a 39-yard field goal with 7:10 remaining.

Indy (7-3) did it with an old-school combination: The offense that played keep-away, a defense that came up with two three-and-outs and a fourth-down stop late in the fourth quarter, and the key turnover in overtime.

Philip Rivers was 24 of 35 with 288 yards, three touchdowns and one interception in his 234th consecutive start, tying Eli Manning for the 10th-longest streak in league history. Jonathan Taylor had 22 carries for 90 yards in a wild game that included Green Bay scores in the final 10 seconds of each half; Indianapolis erasing a 14-point halftime deficit, then failing to seal the win because of five holding calls on its final drive in regulation.

## Saints 24, Falcons 9

Taysom Hill rushed for two touchdowns and passed for 233 yards in his first NFL start at quarterback, and the Saints got their seventh straight victory.

With 41-year-old quarterback Drew Brees sidelined at least three games with multiple rib fractures, Saints coach Sean Payton gave Hill the nod over offseason free agent acquisition Jameis Winston. Hill, who started his career as a utility player with the Saints in 2017, looked comfortable running the scheme Payton designed. He completed 18 of 23 passes (78.3%) without an interception and used his all-around athleticism to run intermittently on scrambles or designed read-option plays, finishing with a team-high 51 yards rushing.

## Washington 20, Bengals 9

Top draft pick Joe Burrow was carted off with a left knee in-

jury before Alex Smith rallied Washington.

Burrow, Cincinnati's franchise quarterback, was injured early in the third quarter when he was hit high and low by two Washington linemen after throwing a pass. His left leg bent awkwardly, and he couldn't put any weight on it, ending his day at 22-of-34 passing for 203 yards and a touchdown.

His season appears over, too. Burrow tweeted: "Thanks for all the love. Can't get rid of me that easy. See ya next year."

## Browns 22, Eagles 17

Kareem Hunt hurdled Philadelphia's Jalen Mills on a touchdown run, Olivier Vernon stepped up with star Myles Garrett out with COVID-19 by getting three sacks and a safety for Cleveland.

Hunt's leaping 5-yard score came shortly after a dazzling 54-yard run by Nick Chubb as the Browns (7-3) finally found traction in their running game in a constant downpour.

Cleveland also got a 50-yard interception return TD in the first half by second-year linebacker Sione Takitaki. The Browns constantly harassed Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz despite playing without Garrett.

## Broncos 20, Dolphins 13

Justin Simmons intercepted Ryan Fitzpatrick's pass in the end zone with 63 seconds left. The Broncos (4-6) not only

prevented Tua Tagovailoa from becoming just the second rookie in the past 40 years to win his first four starts, but they sacked him a half-dozen times and knocked him from the game in the fourth quarter.

Fitzpatrick entered with the Dolphins down 10 points and drove them to a field goal that made it a one-score deficit. The Dolphins, who had won five in a row, had a chance to tie it after they turned away the Broncos at their 1. Melvin Gordon was just about to score his third touchdown of the game when linebacker Andrew Van Ginkel atoned for a pair of penalties on the previous play by punching the ball loose at the 1. Safety Eric Rowe recovered.

But Simmons clinched it after a long Miami drive.

## Texans 27, Patriots 20

Deshaun Watson threw for 344 yards and accounted for three touchdowns, and J.J. Watt defended a career-high four passes.

Watson's two touchdown passes and scoring run all came in the first half as the Texans (3-7) built a 21-10 halftime lead. Watson and Houston's offense slowed down after that to allow the Patriots (4-6) to get back into it. But a 46-yard field goal by Ka'imi Fairbairn extended the lead to 27-20 with about 3½ minutes to go.

## Panthers 20, Lions 0

P.J. Walker threw for 258 yards

Las Vegas Raiders running back Josh Jacobs (28) dives into the air for an unsuccessful attempt at a touchdown against the Kansas City Chiefs during the second half of an NFL game, Sunday, Nov. 22, 2020, in Las Vegas.

and a touchdown in his first NFL start, the much-maligned Carolina defense earned its first shutout since 2015 and the Panthers (4-7) snapped a five-game losing streak.

Walker, a former XFL player, was made the starter less than two hours before kickoff when Teddy Bridgewater was officially ruled out with a knee injury.

Walker did plenty well, connecting on a perfect 52-yard strike to D.J. Moore along with a well-placed 17-yard touchdown pass to Curtis Samuel. But he also had two terrible mistakes, twice throwing interceptions in the red zone, essentially hitting the defender right in the hands.

## Cowboys 31, Vikings 28

Andy Dalton returned from a two-game absence to throw three touchdown passes, hitting Dalton Schultz for a 2-yard score with 1:37 left to stop the Cowboys' four-game losing streak.

Dalton went 22 for 32 for 203 yards and one interception after fill-ins Ben DiNucci and Garrett Gilbert started the previous two games. After missing games to a concussion and COVID-19, Dalton directed an 11-play, 66-yard drive down the stretch that was extended with a fourth-and-6 completion to Amari Cooper at the 19.

## Chargers 34, Jets 28

Keenan Allen set a Chargers franchise record with 16 receptions and Justin Herbert threw for 366 yards and three touchdowns.

The prolific-catch day helped Allen tie Antonio Brown as the fastest to reach 600 receptions. Both reached the mark in their 96th career game. It is also Allen's sixth game with 13 or more receptions, the most by a player in NFL history.

Allen had 145 yards receiving and a 13-yard TD in the third quarter to extend the lead for the Chargers (3-7) to 31-13. New York would rally to get within 34-28 in the fourth quarter on Frank Gore's 1-yard run and Joe Flacco's 6-yard pass to Chris Herndon.

New York (0-10)—off to the worst start in franchise history—drove to the Chargers 32 with under a minute remaining before turning over the ball on downs.



# Tokyo Olympics: Many rules, no hanging around

**TOKYO** (AP) — Athletes at the Tokyo Olympics won't have the luxury of hanging around once they've wrapped up their event.

No late-night parties in the Athletes Village. No nights—or early mornings—on the town.

Instead of getting to know their global neighbors, Olympic athletes will be encouraged to leave Japan a day or two after they've finished competing.

From the opening ceremony to life in the village on Tokyo Bay, the postponed 2020 Olympics will be like no other. There'll be stringent rules and guidelines — and maybe vaccines and rapid testing — to pull off the games in the middle of a pandemic that has been blamed for more than 1 million deaths worldwide.

"Staying longer in the village increases the potential for problems," John Coates, the IOC member in charge of overseeing Tokyo preparations, said Wednesday at a briefing for the Olympics and Paralympics.

Coates was asked if athletes would be discouraged from sightseeing, or looking around the city.

"Yes," he replied simply, a short answer suggesting these Olympics will be all business with few frills.

Coates accompanied International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach to To-



Two women walk past a monument showing the Olympic rings in Tokyo's Odaiba waterfront area in this undated file photo.

country just as optimism is also on the rise.

Christophe Dubi, the Olympic Games executive director, acknowledged much is still in the planning stages with many scenarios in play ahead of the scheduled opening on July 23, 2021.

"We don't know what the situation will be next year, but some decisions will have to be made already in December," Dubi said, speaking remotely.

Coates said the opening ceremony would be restricted to only athletes and a maximum of six team officials. In the past, dozens of officials—at times 50, Coates said—were allowed to march, filling in for athletes who may have skipped in order to compete the next day.

kyo this week as he met Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga and shored up support with key Japanese sponsors.

It was Bach's first visit to Japan since the Olympics were postponed in March.

Bach left Tokyo on Wednesday after two days of saying a vaccine was likely to be available and athletes would be strongly encouraged to take it.

Organizers and the IOC are growing confident they will

have a vaccine and rapid testing. This will help, but dozens of other countermeasures will also be in place; social distancing, masks and bubbles in the venues and the Athletes Village.

Japan has controlled the virus reasonably well with about 1,900 deaths attributed to COVID-19. But almost 500 new cases were reported Wednesday in Tokyo, and more than 2,000 around Japan—both one-day records.

Cases are surging in the



## NMA to hold virtual Turkey Trot

The Northern Marianas Athletics rescinded its earlier decision of canceling the 36th Mt. Tapochao Turkey Trot Run, but will only hold the race virtually.

Runners must complete the 4.2-mile race from Lower Base to Mt. Tapochao in a single run. The trek to the highest peak on island could

be done from Nov. 25 to Nov. 28 and the finishers' times must be posted via GPS tracking site. Results should be sent to NMA by Nov. 28 at 10am.

Registration will start today and should be made online. Link will be posted at the NMA Facebook page.

Prizes will be awarded to the Top 3 finishers in the

men's and women's divisions. Participants in the U18 age group must secure a parental/guardian consent before doing the race. All participants will be entered in a random raffle drawing and winners will be announced on NMA's Facebook page.

For more information, contact NMA secretary general Robin Sapong at rsapong@gmail.com (*Saipan Tribune*)



## POOL

From Page 20

tional standards.

NMISF added there is also the option for the pool property to be parceled out and allot \$150,000 for the temporary fix of the facility to make it accessible to swimmers until another pool is built. There is a proposal to build a swimming pool facility at the Oleai Sports Complex through the \$20-million Economic Development Administration grant.

When considering either the parceled out or matching fund option, still the property should be conveyed to a government agency and either NMSA or NMISF must be in charge of the operation of the facility.

NMSA said they and NMISF will continue coordinating with DPL to find ways to reopen the Marpi pool, which was last cleaned of debris and stagnant water in February and is now filled with murky water anew, while bushes are beginning to grow around the facility.

With the pool closed for a little over two years, CNMI swimmers, who consistently delivered medals for the Commonwealth in various regional competitions, are left with no choice but to train in private/small pools and open water.

## 13

From Page 20

Nap Dizon, Manny Sitchon, Marshall Hoskins, Lydia Tan (duathlon), Ambet Omampo (duathlon), Eric Abragan, and Janet King were the other Saipan finishers in the virtual meet, as they completed the course last Saturday.

The group had the swim leg from the Guma Sakman in Susupe to the waters off Oleai Beach Bar and back. For the bike course, from Guma Sakman, the riders headed to Pacific Islands Club and proceeded to the former Marianas Resort & Spa before going back to Susupe for the bike-run transition. In the run leg, the Saipan betas cruised along Beach Road for the turnaround at the Marianas Medical Center near the Gapan Fishing Base before heading back to the start/finish line at Guma Sakman.

The 13 Saipan participants were among the 67 finishers in the first week of the virtual competition. King completed the race in 4:53:00 (with split times of 1:18:00/2:13:00/1:21:00); while Castro and Sitchon submitted 6:26:00 and 6:20:00, respectively, and Omampo



Ambet Omampo gets ready to head south for the 40K bike leg of the duathlon.

9:12:00 in the duathlon (5K run, 40K bike, and 10K run). Times of the other Saipan finishers have yet to be posted online.

## Saipan Duathlon Dec. 19

Meanwhile, the Triathlon Association of the CNMI has

opened the registration for the 5th Saipan Duathlon.

The course will feature a 5K run, 20K bike, and 2.5K run with the race to be held at the Banzai Cliff in Marpi. Interested participants can enter in the individual or team (men's, women's, and mixed) events



JONATHAN IBAJAN

Manny Sitchon, left, and Nap Dizon run back to Guma Sakman to complete the 10K run of the triathlon event.



JONATHAN IBAJAN

Isaiah Aleksenko is first out of the water during last Saturday's Guam National Virtual Triathlon/Duathlon.

and both road and mountain bikes can be used in the race.

Registration fee is \$20 for individual and \$40 for

team. To sign up online, visit <https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=225341>. Registration deadline is Dec. 17.





**Mitchell,  
Tatum agree  
on max  
extension**

**PAGE 17**

# Saipan Tribune Sports

**Mahomes  
rallies  
Chiefs late  
over Raiders**

**PAGE 18**



**20** TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## \$300K available for Marpi pool



NEIL FAMA

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Olympic-sized swimming pool in Marpi is still filled with murky water as the facility remains closed.

**T**he Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation has identified options that could pave the way for the reopening of the Olympic-sized pool in Marpi.

On top of the list is the utilization of the \$300,000 grant made available by the Federación Internacional de Natación Amateur (FINA)—the sport's world governing body where the NMISF is a member.

However, there are conditions attached to the grant, as reported by Northern Marianas Sports Association executive director Carline Sablan during the NMSA's meeting last Thursday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Sablan, in citing information provided by NMISF, said the financial assistance from FINA will be available only if "there is conveyance of the property for at least 10 years to a government agency like the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and for NMSA or the swimming federation to operate and maintain the pool."

The Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd. used to operate the 50-meter pool for nearly 40 years before the facility closed in October 2018 as the company's lease agreement with the Department of Public Lands for the Marpi property, including the Mariana

Resort & Spa, expired.

The DPL has since opened the bid for a new lease agreement on the property and received six applicants/investors when deadline for submission of bids expired last Oct. 16.

NMSA and NMISF will make a follow-up with DPL on the received bids, as having an investor to operate the pool



is another option for reopening the facility.

The investor will have the pool accessible to the public as a public ben-

efit contribution, just like what Kan Pacific did or the company can match the \$300K that FINA is offering to improve the pool according to interna-

**See POOL on Page 19**

## 13 finish Guam virtual tri/duathlon

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Saipan's sports community continues to join the trend in competition at this time of the

COVID-19 pandemic, as 13 completed the Guam National Virtual Triathlon/Duathlon.

Thirteen-year-old Isaiah Aleksenko was the youngest finisher among Saipan participants in the

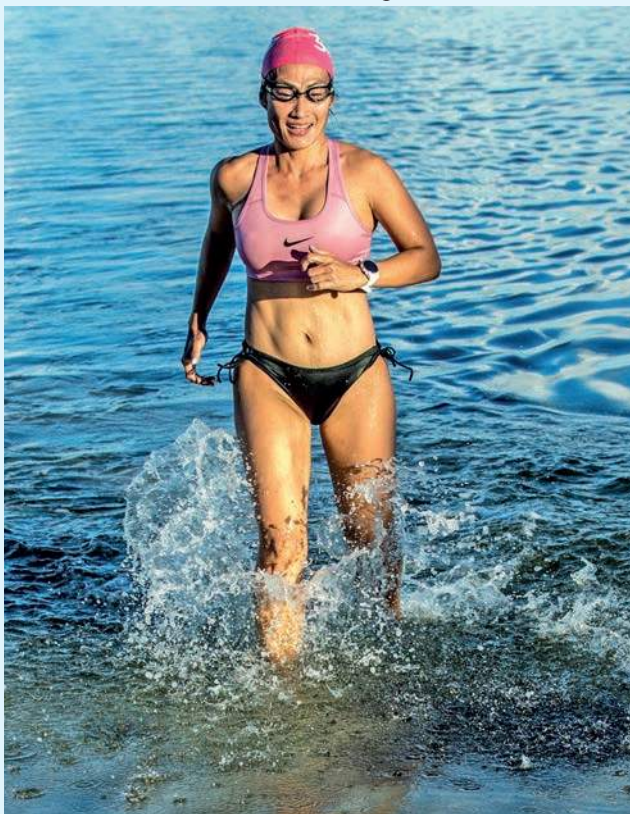


Guam Triathlon Federation-organized event and timed in at 4:54:00 in the 1,500-meter swim, 40-kilometer bike, and 10K run. The Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan member had split

times of 15:00 in the swim leg, 3:34:00 in the bike, and 1:04:00 in the run.

Aleksenko, her mom Yulia, Brad and Kathy Ruszala, Robyn Spaeth, Ricky Castro,

**See 13 on Page 19**



JONATHAN IBAJAN

Janet King heads out of the water at Guma Sakman in Susupe.



JONATHAN IBAJAN

Saipan triathletes pose for a group photo before racing in the Guam National Virtual Triathlon/Duathlon last Saturday.